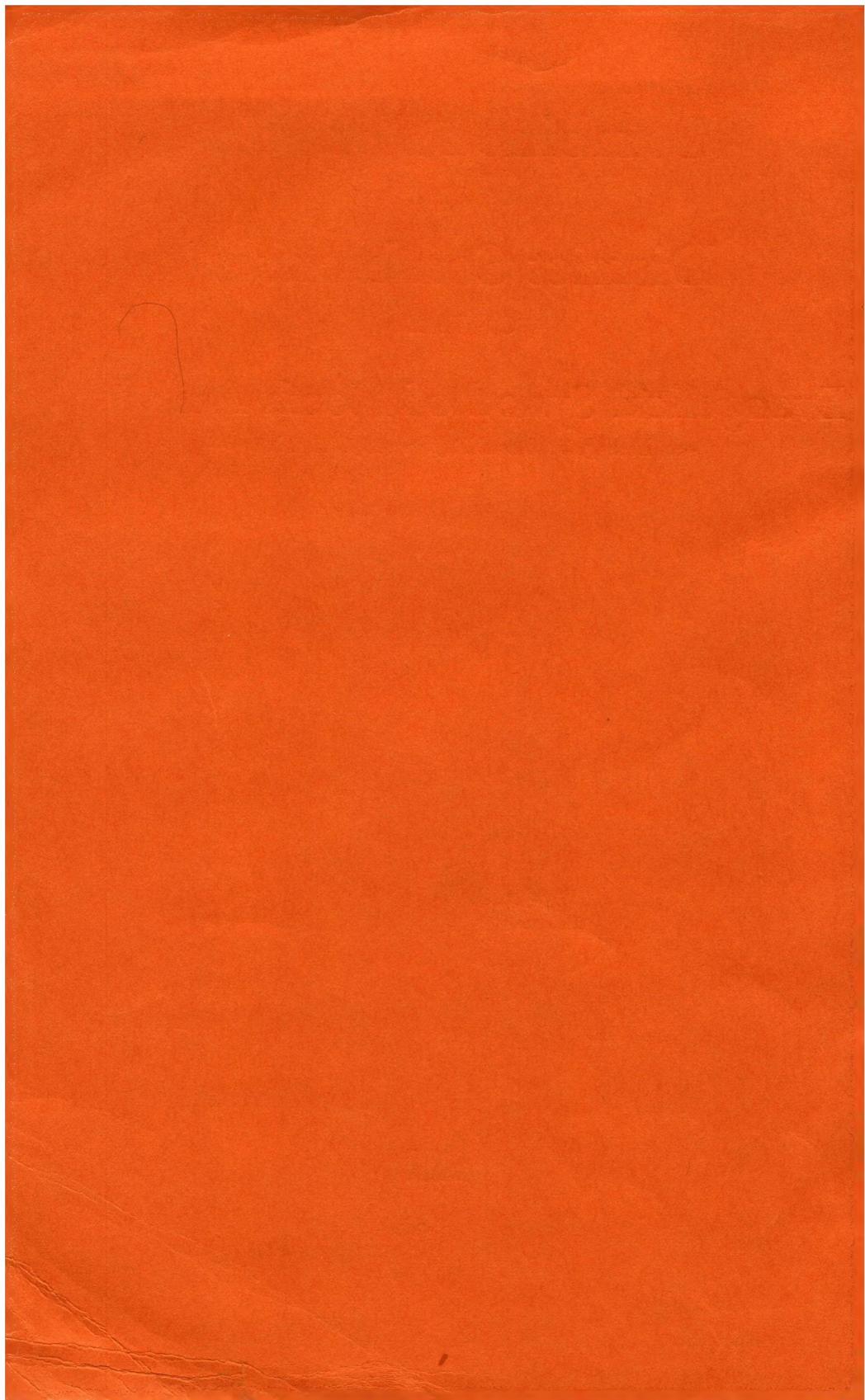


Combined Minutes  
OF THE  
District Conferences  
OF THE  
Evangelical Synod of North America

— Evangelical and Reformed Church —



HELD IN  
THE YEAR 1937



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## Minutes of District Conferences

of the

**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
(Evangelical and Reformed Church)



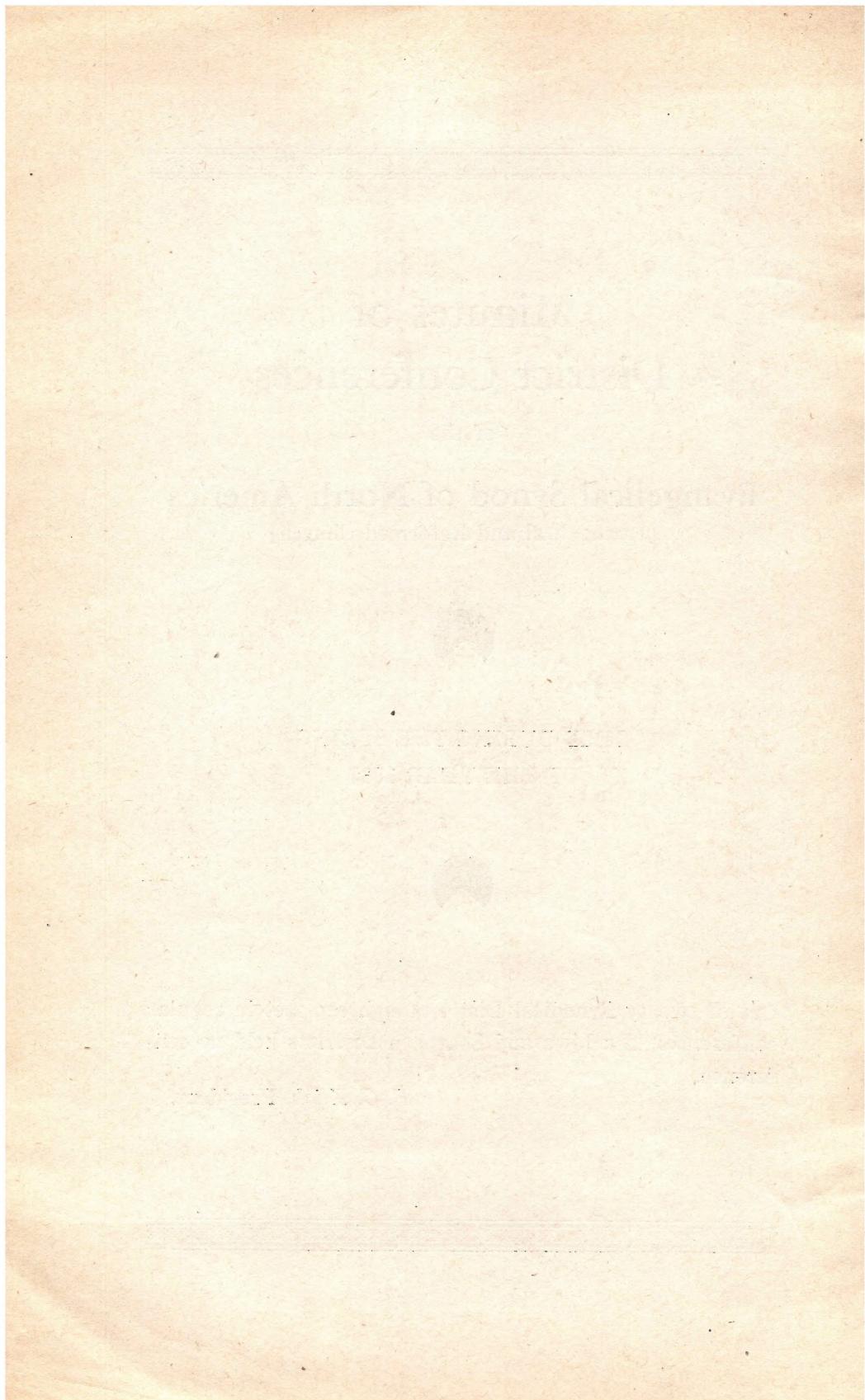
HELD DURING THE SPRING  
OF THE YEAR 1937



Out of twenty Synodical Districts eighteen met in regular conference. The Iowa and Southern Districts held no conference.

*F. C. Klick*, President.





**MINUTES**  
of the  
**52nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**ATLANTIC DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Emanuel Evangelical Church, Irvington, N. J.**  
Rev. Edward J. Paetzold, M.A., Pastor

**May 10 to 13, 1937**

The 52nd annual conference of the Atlantic District proved a very instructive and helpful one. It was marked by large attendance of delegates and pastors, and the last session was as well attended as the first. The work of the conference was well planned, and the program was carried out with dispatch. The hospitality of our hosts made the days of the conference pleasant in every way.

Two worship services were held during the three days. The opening service on Monday evening, May 10th, was in charge of the Rev. Wm. Kochheim, Baltimore, Md. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Wm. L. Moenhaus, Scranton, Pa. The speaker used as his subject: "Our Christian Life, Profession or Service?" The text was Matt. 7: 21. In a very challenging manner the speaker drove home the truth that we need to do more than say, "Lord, Lord" if we would fulfill the purpose of our calling as Christians. Not what we say we believe but what we do is the measure of our Christian life. He pointed out that we need to worship God, for thus we find the reality of God, but this is not enough. We must go further than merely knowing God. Then we have our creeds. These are the answers to the many questions that we have asked about God and man's relationship with God. They have their place we must define our position, but mere belief does not prove the worth of a man's religion. The final test of any man's religion is his life or his conduct. Our religion must produce a life that corresponds to the creed that we profess.

The local pastor, the Rev. E. J. Paetzold extended a hearty welcome to the guests of the conference. The president, the Rev. Louis C. F. Miller responded to the words of welcome.

All the worship services were made impressive through the splendid help given by the choir and soloists of Emanuel Church. Much credit is due the members of the choir and the organist. They did their work in a very acceptable manner.

The second worship service was held on Tuesday evening. This service was to emphasize the missionary work of the church. The worship service was led by the Rev. E. J. Paetzold of the local church. The sermon was preached by the Rev. G. Siegenthaler, Baltimore, Md., a member of the Board of Missions. Brother Siegenthaler used John 10: 16 as his text. Three great issues confront us. They are propositions that we must meet.

1. God made of one blood every nation.
2. The world will be ruled, either by a materialistic philosophy or by the love of God.
3. Shall we have war or shall we have peace? Will we be dominated by love or will we be dominated by force?

At the close of the service the Rev. Edw. Fuhrmann, Sr., Newark, N. J. installed the officers of the District.

The devotions of the conference were in charge of the following: "The Unity of the Spirit and Individual Freedom," by the Rev. Richard W. Jungfer, Jr. of Newark, N. J.; "The Unity of the Spirit as the Source of Action," by the Rev. John Schauer of Stemmers Run, Maryland; "The Unity of the Spirit as a Disciplinary Force," by the Rev. Manfred Manrodt of Baltimore, Maryland. The Memorial service was conducted by the Rev. Harry G. Yaggi of Annapolis, Maryland. A very impressive Communion Service was held on Tuesday morning. This service was in charge of local pastor, the Rev. E. J. Paetzold and the president, the Rev. Louis C. F. Miller, Scranton, Pa. The conference heard a very challenging address by Dr. Lloyd Foster of East Orange, New Jersey. Dr. Foster is a Methodist and spoke on the subject, "The Present Day Challenge to the Churches." Mr. Alfred Cookman, a Naturalist of New York City, addressed the conference on the wild life of Palestine and America. The Rev. Armin Meyer, missionary to India, was the last speaker on the conference program. Dr. J. P. Meyer was the synodical representative and addressed the members of the conference on Wednesday morning and evening.

#### **Business**

The conference was called to order by the President, the Rev. Louis C. F. Miller. The Rev. Manfred Manrodt, Baltimore, Maryland, was elected Moderator, and Mr. Christian Martin, Albany, New York, was elected Vice-Moderator.

#### **Resolutions**

The Committee on District Reports recommends:

##### **REPORT OF THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

We agree with our President that the essential need of the Church is not machinery, but spirituality.

##### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The committee moves the adoption of the President's recommendations Nos. 1, 3 and 4.

Item 1, Pages 5, 293 and 303—The attendance of delegates to the General Synod.

Item 3, Pages 60, 66-68—The General Synod refers its budget, through the executive committee, to the several districts and classes.

Item 4, Pages 71-121—The General Synod submits the adopted Constitution and By-Laws to the Districts and Classes of the Evangelical and Reformed Church for their adoption or rejection.

We refer items 1 through 10 with the exception of No. 4 to the Committee on Synodical Reports and No. 4 to the Committee on the Constitution.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Your committee recommends the inclusion of Dr. and Mrs. Milton C. Lang in the membership of the District.

#### ANNIVERSARIES, DEDICATIONS, ETC.

We congratulate all those pastors, congregations and others who celebrated anniversaries and dedications during the year.

We thank the District President for his comprehensive report on the status of the District.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

We thank the Finance Committee for their report.

We regret no recognition was given to Immanuel Church, Cambridge, Maryland, for the support they gave the synodical budget and the debt liquidation.

We thank Mr. Mankey for his comprehensive report as Acting Treasurer.

#### PENSION AND RELIEF

We also call attention to the fact that membership in the Ministerial Pension and Relief Fund is obligatory according to the decision of the General Synod.

Your committee recommends the following resolution to be proposed for adoption, "The District requests the Finance Committee of the General Council to grant the Board of Pension and Relief an increase of not less than \$10,000.00 in the paying basis of the budget for 1936.

We recommend that \$106.00 be granted from the District Treasury to the Pension Board Chairman of the Atlantic District to make up the difference in relief due to Brothers Schoettle and Jungfer, Sr.

We recommend the adoption of the last paragraph of the report of the Board of Pension and Relief, i. e.: "Our District should go on record to urge the General Council to make larger allowance for pension and relief. Our aged pastors, their widows and orphans should come first and not last. Let every congregation in our District bring up its quota and we can demand larger amounts for our pensioners."

#### KINGDOM SERVICE

We regret that Brother Enders must resign his Chairmanship of Kingdom Service and recommend the election of his successor.

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We endorse the findings of the Committee on Religious Education and accept their report in total.

We recommend that all pastors of the District will bring to the attention of their parishioners, "The First National Convention on Christian Education and Youth Congress" of the Evangelical and Reformed Church which will be held at Lakeside, Ohio, June 28th through July 1st of this year.

#### HOME MISSIONS

We recommend adopting the report of the Atlantic District Home Missions and extend to them a vote of thanks for the same.

The Atlantic District recommends to our Theological Seminaries the training of Home Missionaries.

#### FIRE AND STORM INSURANCE

We commend the Inspector of the Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Association for his activities and encourage him to continue the same.

#### SPECIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend most emphatically that the District insist upon benevolent funds going to their proper designations, instead of being used for current expenses, as is the practice in some congregations.

We favor the establishment of a Missionary Lectureship at Eden Seminary, as a memorial to the late Dr. Paul A. Menzel.

We take special cognizance of the fact that the Reverend Oscar Guthe and the Reverend J. Schoettle have been active in the ministry fifty (50) years and resolve that the usual gold medal be given them by the District.

Submitted,

*Eugene T. Henzel, Chairman  
Lillian Lee Lang  
F. A. Giese*

*John A. Roth  
Harry G. Yaggi  
Dorothea Snyder*

#### Report of the Committee on Constitution:

The Atlantic District approves the Constitution of the Evangelical and Reformed Church as adopted at the General Synod in Fort Wayne, Indiana in June, 1936.

The Atlantic District reserves the right in the future to propose amendments concerning points on which it differs from present provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws.

The Atlantic District approves the reorganization of the districts and classes in so far as it affects the Atlantic District, except that it urges the inclusion of St. John's Church, Richmond, Virginia, in the Maryland Synod.

*Charles Enders, Chairman*

<i>A. Juergens</i>	<i>Christian Martin</i>
<i>S. Lefton</i>	<i>J. Fred Kraus</i>
<i>R. Jungfer, Jr.</i>	<i>H. W. Schultheis</i>
<i>Laura Gillman</i>	<i>F. C. Heitkamp</i>

## Committee of Synodical Reports

### *Item 1. Report of the President*

*Section a.* We agree with President Klick that this day calls not for the voice of doubt, but for the sounding of positive conviction in preaching.

*Section b.* We would urge all congregations of the District to pay their District quotas out of which the allotment to the General Synod is made.

*Section c.* We endorse the action of the Board of Directors in granting permission to the India Mission District to unite with "The United Church of North India," which is a step in the right direction towards the creation of an indigenous Church.

### *Item 2. Finances and Debt Liquidation*

*Section a.* We commend the 539 congregations which increased their synodical giving over the previous year, and would strongly urge, if there be any congregations in the District among the 484 that have decreased their giving, or the 105 which gave nothing, that these show fruits of repentance through supporting action. We call upon the District officers to lend their helpful encouragement through congregational visitation as far as possible.

*Section b.* We would strongly urge, further, that the congregations through systematic, thorough-going education (using among other things the synodical visual education service) inform membership of the inestimable worth of Larger Kingdom Work and stress it as the obligation of every communicant.

*Section c.* We also gratefully recognize the services of the Kingdom Service Director, the Rev. J. P. Meyer, in reducing the actual indebtedness of the Synod to the extent of \$140,000.00, and call upon every congregation of the District to do its share in completing the task of wiping out the remaining \$247,898.70.

### *Item 3. The Executive Secretary*

The Atlantic District votes its hearty thanks to the Rev. H. P. Vieth for his splendid services as Executive Secretary and now welcomes him into our fellowship as a pastor of the District.

### *Item 4. Educational Institutions*

*Section a.* The hearty growth and expansion of Eden Seminary and Elmhurst College are noted with deep satisfaction.

*Section b.* We request our pastors to encourage young people who are interested in higher education to enroll in one or the other of our denominational colleges.

### *Item 5. National Missions*

*Section a.* We urge all our members to assist in bringing America's unchurched millions under the influence of Christ's Gospel, confident that its resources of righteousness, joy and peace alone will make us able to cope with the ever-increasing strain and temptation of modern life.

*Section b.* We anticipate great results from the newly organized Council of Missionary Education and the appointment of the Rev. David D. Baker as Director.

*Section c.* We agree with the Central Board that the mission churches continue to be under the sympathetic advisory supervision of district boards.

*Section d.* We commend the increasing cooperation between the two Boards of Home Missions, and express the hope that this cooperation may issue speedily in complete merger.

#### *Item 6. International Missions*

*Section a.* It is with joy and heartiest thanks to God that we read the report of the faithful and blessed work done in our mission fields and we thank all who have so devotedly and faithfully put their life and soul into this great branch of work for the Kingdom of God. May God bless all the workers and also the members of the Board, and inspire them to carry on with undiminished faith and strength.

*Section b.* The promotional work of the Board is highly commended not only for its value in making of better understanding of our mission work but also for its great value in the development of the spiritual life of the church.

*Section c.* The Medical Mission Society deserves special thanks for its splendid support in this branch of the work, and we also thank the Evangelical Women's Union for the faithful support of this and other branches of this enterprise.

*Section d.* We agree with the gradual unification of the Boards and welcome the creation of the new Board of International Missions.

*Section e.* It is with satisfaction that we note the growth of the Indian Church, the replacement of missionaries to fill the existing vacancies, and the creation of "The United Church of North India."

*Section f.* We wish to encourage the missionaries in the Honduran field, and recognize the especial difficulties of their work.

*Section g.* We encourage our congregations to make it possible for the Board of Foreign Missions to give both India and Honduras the additional workers, evangelistic, educational and medical required to meet the needs of those fields.

#### *Item 7. Publications*

We commend the "Messenger" to our pastors and congregations, and urge that an earnest effort be made to secure its entrance into every Evangelical and Reformed home.

#### *Item 8. Christian Education*

*Section a.* We heartily approve of the merger of the staffs of the two Boards of Education and the Evangelical League Board, and regard the new unified program as a step of real progress.

*Section b.* We express our confidence both in these two Boards and in the General Council, which makes the allocation to the various causes, and request the General Council to be as generous as possible

in determining the apportionment for Christian Education, increasing the amount if it can be done without serious injury to other important causes.

*Item 9. Dunkirk*

The Board of Directors of Dunkirk Conference Grounds calls attention to the fifteenth anniversary project, a new administration building costing \$5,000.00. The funds are being raised through the organization of the four eastern Districts responsible for the maintenance of the grounds. This cause is commended to our congregations and to individual members who may be induced to contribute to this cause.

*Item 10. Pensions and Relief*

*Section a.* We urge that the merger of the Pension Boards be effected as speedily as possible, and that an adequate pension system be created, binding upon all pastors and congregations and adequate enough to do away with the need of ministerial relief.

*Section b.* We view with alarm the continued drawing on the Pension fund, and instruct the General Council to grant the Board of Pension and Relief an increase in apportionment in order that the Board may pay its pensions.

*Item 11. Brotherhood and Women's Union*

*Section a.* We urge that men's organizations affiliate with the Churchman's Brotherhood.

*Section b.* We note with satisfaction the consummation of the merger of our men's work into the Churchmen's Brotherhood and look forward with high hopes to a similar merger of our women's work, and the impetus this gives to Kingdom work.

*Item 12. Evangelical Charities*

We accept the suggestion of the Board that the District make provision in the future for presentation at conference of the work of our benevolent institutions.

*Item 13. Christian Social Action*

*Section a.* We look with hope to the Commission for Christian Social Action for wise guidance in applied Christianity.

*Section b.* We recommend that a special committee be appointed to study the statement of social principles made by the Commission, and referred by the General Synod to the Districts, Classes, and report to the next annual conference.

Respectfully submitted,

*G. Siegenthaler, Chairman*

*R. Pierce Beaver*

*J. P. Schwab*

*August F. Flohr*

*C. T. Schaefer*

*John L. Scheuer*

*Henry Thesdorf*

*Theo. F. Fischer*

*John Teal*

*Frank J. Sazama*

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*P. W. Meisenheimer, Secretary.*

Read and approved, *Louis C. F. Miller, President.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**41st CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**CALIFORNIA DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**

Held in  
**St. Paul Evangelical Church, Los Angeles, Calif.**  
Rev. O. Nussmann, Pastor

**April 27-29, 1937**

The 41st Conference of the California District convened at St. Paul Evangelical Church in Los Angeles, Calif., Rev. O. Nussmann, Pastor, on Tuesday morning, April 27, and opened with a devotional at 10:00 o'clock. The services were conducted by Rev. Clyde McNelly of St. John Evangelical Church, Los Angeles. He spoke on "The Unity of the Spirit and Individual Freedom" based on 1 Cor. 3, 21-23.

At 10:30 Mr. Charles Quast of St. Paul Church, Los Angeles, extended a hearty welcome to the members and guests of the conference to which President Saenger responded in fitting words.

The Conference was officially declared to be in session to transact the business of the day.

Committee No. 1 on Credentials, presented the names of accredited delegates, Rev. O. Wichmann reporting. The following delegates were regularly seated and given voice and vote:

Wm. J. Libbert, Immanuel.....	Los Angeles
Mrs. Anna Kohler, Bethel.....	San Francisco
Maria Tillmanns, St. John.....	Pomona
Wm. Warnke, St. John.....	San Francisco
H. Hagen, St. Mark.....	Oakland
C. Quast, St. Paul.....	Los Angeles
H. A. Wutzler, Zion.....	Long Beach
W. F. Kram, St. John.....	Woodland
Mrs. Eva Clayton, Evangelical.....	Hollywood
Mrs. Anna Nethaway, St. John.....	Pasadena
Mrs. Clara Fuerst, St. John.....	Los Angeles
A. Leonhardt, St. Matthew.....	San Rafael
Aug. Gerske, St. John.....	San Bruno
Frank Jessen, Grace.....	Petaluma
Mrs. J. Landmeyer, Zion.....	Los Angeles

Pastors responding to Roll Call:

E. Stommel	O. F. Geisler
Wm. P. Thiel	C. McNelly
Theo. Tillmanns	O. Nussmann
O. Wichmann	B. E. Schalow
<i>Retired</i>	A. F. Schroeder
P. Branke	F. J. Schmuck
J. Irion	Theo. Schulz
J. Nuesch	F. D. Schueler
O. Satzinger	A. W. Ogsten
G. Tillmanns	C. Saenger
P. Tester	

The election of Moderator and Vice-moderator resulted in the following: Rev. C. Saenger as Moderator and Rev. B. E. Schalow as Vice-moderator.

Several changes in the program were made for the convenience of the guest speaker, and to fill vacancies in the communities, which program was then adopted.

The District President presented his report, which was accepted with thanks and referred to the proper committee.

ATTENDANCE — VISITORS

The conference was marked by a spirit of harmony throughout the sessions and proved inspirational and profitable to all. It was attended by 14 active and 6 retired pastors, 14 regular delegates and 14 visitors.

A word of welcome was extended to the Revs. Hardi, Zuzuki, and Dr. Evemeyer of the Reformed group.

The Rev. A. W. Ogsten was accorded voice and vote for the duration of the conference.

In the morning worship, the Rev. O. F. Geisler introduced the guest speaker, Dr. H. J. Hutchins. His message, "The Church and the Minister," based on the Acts of the Apostles, was a forceful and inspirational presentation, emphasizing the importance of Fellowship with Jesus. The conference expressed its appreciation by a rising vote of thanks.

NOON RECESS

At one o'clock various reports were presented and referred to the respective committees.

To take care of several minor matters presented by the general officers for action by the district, Bro. Schmuck volunteered and was appointed committee of one.

At the evening worship on Tuesday, Rev. Carl Saenger delivered the sermon, basing his text on Matthew 7: 21.

Devotions on Wednesday morning, April 28, were led by the Rev. Wm. P. Thiel, his meditation, based on 1 Cor. 12: 11, being, "Unity of the Spirit as a Source of United Action." The Rev. Theo. Schulz, representing the Kingdom Service Director, Dr. J. P. Meyer, addressed the conference and presented the entire problem of the Synodical Debt

Liquidation in a congenial and able manner, urging all congregations by means of the adopted and systematic plans to do their utmost to cooperate. In the evening worship the Rev. Theo. T. Tillmanns spoke on "Spiritual Equipment," using as his text Isa. 6, 5-8.

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE

On April 29 a Memorial Service was held with the Rev. F. D. Schueler delivering the sermon based on last chapter of Revelation.

In his sermon to the conference, Rev. A. F. Schroeder, spoke on "The Problem of War." The concluding services and installation of officers was in charge of Rev. Carl Saenger. Adjournment was taken on Thursday, April 29 at 2 P. M.

The Committee on Traveling presented a partial accounting and was given the authority to proceed with the work of distribution as proposed.

#### SPECIAL RESOLUTION

*Whereas*, the California District comprises a large territory entailing much expenses in traveling, and,

*Whereas*, next year a special conference must be called in order to elect delegates and alternates to the General Conference with no other business to be transacted,

*Be it resolved*: That next year (1938) the California District meet simultaneously in two sections, one in Los Angeles and one in San Francisco, the two sections to be in telephonic communication, thus, in reality having one conference and fulfilling the demands of the constitution in transacting the necessary business with dispatch and at minimum expenses, provided, that legal counsel assures the district of the legality of such steps.

#### Report of the District President

Dear Brethren:

Eph. 5: 16 we read, "Redeeming the Time," or "Buying Up the Opportunity" (Greek), or "Make the Most of Your Opportunity" (Goodsp.)

We are living in a challenging time, one that presents rich opportunities to the Christian Church and the Christian people. Everything seems to be in a state of flux. Vast changes are taking place in our day. May I refer to an editorial of the "Christian Century": "Capitalism in Transit." The world is passing through great birthpangs and no one knows what the new creature will be like. But the time presents marvelous opportunities to the Christian world. As soldiers of Jesus Christ we are called upon to help shape the destinies of the world. In such times as these we are not to sit idly by and let the world perish in her travails. We as co-laborers with God and the Christ who gave Himself a precious sacrifice for the redemption of the world are to make the very most of our opportunities. By the grace of God which can turn our very weakness into strength, we, although a little band, will throw ourselves into the battle for righteousness and truth and help usher in the glorious reign of our God.

#### CHANGES AND INSTALLATIONS

As reported to the special conference last year, the Rev. Wm. Thiel, a member of the Missouri-Kansas Classis, came into our district to serve Immanuel Evangelical Church, Los Angeles. He was installed on May 3, by the Revs. H. R. Gebhardt and Dr. Enevemeyer.

Rev. O. Nussmann, chosen by St. Paul Evangelical Church, Los Angeles, as its pastor, came to our district from the Kansas District and was installed June 21, by Rev. J. Nuesch, his predecessor.

Early last summer Rev. H. R. Gebhardt resigned his charge and moved to Denver, Colo., the latter part of September. In place of Rev. Gebhardt the C. H. M. Board sent Rev. Clyde McNelly, a member of the South Illinois District. He commenced his work in St. John Evangelical Church, Los Angeles, about November 15. On November 29 he was installed by the Rev. Paul Branke.

At the special conference last year it was reported that the Rev. K. C. Struckmeier resigned as pastor of Bethel Church, San Francisco, in order to retire from the active ministry. Certain difficulties arose in filling this charge. Rev. Struckmeier, therefore, remained with Bethel Church up to January 1, when Rev. F. J. Schmuck, elected to be Bro. Struckmeier's successor, moved from San Rafael to San Francisco and took charge of this field. Rev. Struckmeier installed him on January 3.

Rev. F. D. Schueler, who had come to Southern California in September on a year's leave of absence, was asked to serve San Rafael. He has taken full charge of this work. His letter of transfer was sent to me by the President of the Indiana District.

Dr. F. L. Dorn resigned his charge at Petaluma early in the year. So far we have been unable to find a man for this place.

To all the newcomers in our district we bid a very hearty welcome. May God richly bless their labors in their respective fields!

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

St. John Evangelical Church of San Francisco was privileged to celebrate its 50th anniversary on May 24th of last year.

Rev. and Mrs. J. Ramser were surprised by relatives and friends on their Golden Wedding Anniversary on July 23.

St. John Evangelical Church of Los Angeles purchased a Hammond electric organ.

St. John Evangelical Church, San Bruno, was privileged to dedicate art-glass windows on November 22. These windows were donated by some of the members.

On the same day St. Matthew Church, San Rafael celebrated its 25th anniversary.

In January of this year Rev. Clyde McNelly went east for the purpose of getting himself a helpmate in his new field.

To Rev. A. W. Ogsten, who was recently married, we extend hearty congratulations.

We learn with regret of the illness of Bro. Struckmeier and wish him a speedy recovery.

#### IN MEMORIAM

The Lord of life and death called to His heavenly home the following members of our district:

Mrs. F. L. Dorn, buried June 28th  
Rev. L. E. K. Hagen, laid to rest June 13th  
Mrs. Theo. Tillmanns, Sept. 8th  
Mrs. A. Jannsen of Pasadena, February 8th

May the God of all comfort be very near the bereaved and give them comfort and consolation!

Regarding the *General Synod* at Ft. Wayne nothing need be said here. You have the complete report in hand.

#### REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Both regions met in conference in Oct. of last year. The S. region held a two-days' conference at Long Beach. It was well attended and all took active part.

The N. region through its president, Rev. Theo. Tillmanns, reports to me: "The Regional conference was held on Oct. the 27th, 1936 at St. Mark's Evang. Church, Oakland on one day session. While not all of the churches were represented as well as was expected, those who attended enjoyed a well worked out program and a profitable fellowship with one another. Rev. Schalow led the morning devotion and spoke on Stewardship as a basis of Christian living. Rev. Schmuck addressed the conference on Stewardship as a strategy for world conquest. Rev. Saenger led the afternoon devotional which was followed by an address by Rev. Schroeder on the topic: "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord." Profitable discussions were held in sectional meetings by the various groups. In the evening a service was held in which Rev. Tillmanns preached the sermon.

Officers were re-elected: Pres., Rev. Theo. Tillmanns; Vice-Pres., Mr. A. Leonhard; Sec., Mr. Geo. Jenness, Jr.; Treas., Mr. Wm. Warnke.

The *District Council* held two meetings. At the fall meeting Rev. Gebhardt tendered his resignation as V.-Pres. of the District. Rev. B. E. Schalow was chosen in his place. Mr. Quast also resigned as treasurer since his health made it impossible for him to continue. Rev. Nuesch was asked to serve in this capacity. Rev. O. F. Geisler was elected as member of the Council.

#### RE: REV. ANDREW M. BAHNSEN

The office of president in our small district is not especially onerous when things move along normally. During my term of office, however, they did not always thus move along. Before last year's conference I received information that steps were to be taken by Bethel Church, San Francisco to elect Rev. Bahnsen as their pastor. In order to make sure just what his status in the Synod was I wrote Dr. Klick. He replied that the "privilege of Call" which had been accorded Rev. Bahnsen several years previous was no longer in effect. I sent this

information to Rev. Bahnsen. About June of last year the Board of Elders of Bethel sent me a copy of a letter to Rev. Bahnsen urging him to apply for the pastorate of Bethel Church. I informed the Board of the fact that Rev. Bahnsen could not be called by a member of the Synod referring to a paragraph in their own constitution. Several members of the Board, however, were very insistent that Rev. Bahnsen should be their pastor. Several meetings with the Board and with Rev. Bahnsen became necessary. Finally Rev. Bahnsen appeared before the District Council and requested same to recommend to the Board of Directors of the Synod that the "privilege of call" be granted him on condition that he leave the California District. This recommendation was made; but the Board of Directors finally decided that it would not be well to grant Rev. Bahnsen "privilege of call."

We cannot boast of any *great progress* in our district. If you compare the statistics from year to year you will find that the figures vary little. As to our synodical budget payment it must be said we ruined our fine record this last year. Rev. Schalow, budget secretary, will give a detailed report.

We hoped that *St. John's Evangelical Church*, Pasadena, would be in a position to invite this conference. This congregation with the help of the Church Extension Fund Board purchased a more favorably located church property, but cannot take possession of same until June. Therefore it was impossible for St. John to invite the conference to meet in its new church home. The District Council instructed me to write Bro. Nussmann and ask him whether St. Paul would be willing to be host to the conference. St. Paul, I am glad to say, extended us a very cordial invitation, for which they deserve the hearty thanks of the district.

There will be no *representative of the Synod* at this conference. Dr. Klick wrote me that the Board of Directors would refrain from sending one in order to cut down the expense. He sends his special greetings to the conference.

At the last General conference I conferred with Dr. Frankenfeld as to the zoning of the Pacific Coast. He asked me to write him regarding the same, which I did. Some time ago I noticed an item in the Messenger stating that if any changes as to Synods are wished, to write to Bro. Grauer in Cincinnati. I did so and received a reply from him that this matter would be taken up in their meeting. The District ought to again take a stand in this matter and inform Bro. Grauer again of same.

In closing I wish to thank very heartily the members of the District Council and the boards for their loyal cooperation. I have been privileged to serve the district in the capacity of president for three terms. It has been a great experience to enjoy the confidence of the district for so long a time. Thank you all very cordially for this! It is now time for me to retire and make room for another. May God

continue to bless our district and all its members. May we continue to operate in a spirit of harmony and sacrificial service, forgetting self and serving our glorious Master.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Carl L. Saenger*, President.

The administration of the district has been rather expensive. The main reason: the far-flung boundaries of our district. The constitution calls for two meetings of the district council and the Home Mission Board. The members on these two reside in both regions. The traveling expenses always run rather high. It seems to me that unless the resolution of last year pertaining to the redistricting of the Pac. Synod is favorably acted upon by the committee appointed for that purpose the district conference ought to petition the General Synod to be permitted to reduce the membership on the council and the H. M. B. or that these two bodies meet only once a year.

#### BUDGET REPORT

The Synodical Budget quota allotted our District for 1936 was the sum of \$3,300.00. This quota was divided by the District Council between the churches on the basis of paying membership as reported for 1935. Most of our churches failed to raise their allotted quota. Those churches which raised their quota are to be especially commended. According to the Synodical report our District finds itself in third place, having raised about 85% of its quota. Instead of showing a gain over last year we show a loss of \$461.80. This is to be regretted and should force us to put forth greater efforts. There is no legitimate reason why we should not raise our full quota and head the list of those who have done their duty. Let us hope that 1938 will find our District again in first place.

Then follow the quota and payments by the congregations for the past year as well as payments by each church for Debt Liquidation. Designated quota for 1937 to the churches.

*B. E. Schalow*, Budget Secretary.

#### Report of Brotherhood Committee

The Committee on Brotherhood reports that nothing new has developed during the past year. The number of Brotherhoods remains the same, the returns showing 5 Brotherhoods with a membership of 95.

Many of the men in smaller churches are already enlisted in other departments of the church and are doing nobly giving of their time and financial support and therefore do not feel the need of an additional organization. The Brotherhood that we have are doing splendid work under great difficulties. Especially do we commend the Oakland group of men who are furnishing the labor man power in the construction of their new Sunday School Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Theo. Tillmanns*, Chairman.

## Women's Union

There is one new Women's organization to be listed, namely, the English Ladies' Aid of St. Paul's Evangelical Church founded by Brother Nussmann, named the "Dorcas Society."

The several local organizations and the two Regional Federations are carrying on their work according to the schedule prevailing in each case. The Southern California Regional Federation desires to report very interesting and profitable meetings during the past year.

Of special significance:

a. The Southern California Regional Federation has voted to send an official delegate to the National Convention in St. Louis in May.

b. At the last executive Committee meeting of the Southern Federation it was voted to recommend to the quarterly meeting of the Federation that the annual benefit dinners in support of the Benevolent Association be discontinued. This decision, in keeping, as it is, with the official policy of the Evangelical and Reformed Church should be a cause of great rejoicing to the members of this conference as it is to your chairman.

*Theo. E. Schulz.*

## Report of District Board on Pensions and Relief

The Board of Pension and Relief of the California District begs to submit the following report for the year 1936. We had on our list 22 pensioners, 13 pastors and 9 widows of pastors. These pensioners received \$5,241.20 from the Central Board. 8 pastors and 6 widows of pastors received pension only, while 4 pastors and 3 widows received in addition to the pension also relief. One pastor who is not a member of the Pension and Relief Fund, received a small amount of relief. Only \$468.90 were paid for relief in our district. Two of our pensioners have been called, as we Christians believe, to a better world since our last conference.

During the year 1937 pension will be paid on the same basis as in the year 1936. We have again 22 pensioners on our list as Dr. F. L. Dorn and Rev. K. Struckmeier were added. Your reporter would also be entitled to approximately \$300.00 pension, but in order to help those who are in greater need he has made no claim for his part of the pension.

Our church ought to take better care for our retired pastors and widows of pastors. The average pension is less than \$220.00. No one can live on this small amount. I understand the pastors are not eligible for pension from the state which makes a higher pension mandatory. Paul writes to Timothy (1 Tim. 5, 8) "If any provide not for his own and specially his own household he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

The California District should pass a resolution requesting a larger share of the annual synodical budget for the Board of Pension and Relief. Respectfully submitted,

THE BOARD OF PENSION AND RELIEF  
OF THE CALIFORNIA DISTRICT  
*J. Nuesch, Chairman*  
*Rev. T. Tillmanns Mr. H. Wutzler*

#### Report of Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Association

At this date there are in force in our district and the Pac. N. West district the following policies:

A Policies 28 .....	\$114,250.00
B Policies 13 .....	18,515.00
AC Policies 17 .....	91,670.00
AD Policies 17 .....	53,250.00
ADH Policies 1 .....	4,000.00
 Total .....	\$281,685.00

May I call the members' attention to a change in policy approved at the last General conference. From now on it is possible for all members of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to insure their property with the Mutual Fire and Storm Ins. Ass. at attractive rates.

In order to be fair to all and to compete with other insurance companies the Board of Directors has made several classifications. I shall be very glad to give anyone interested specific information as to classification and rates.

Respectfully submitted,  
*C. Saenger*

#### District Treasurer's Report

Total Receipts—Budget and Contingent Fund .....	\$369.35
General Conference, Refund .....	59.30
Grand Total .....	\$428.65
 Disbursements .....	411.82
 Balance on Hand .....	16.83
Additional Receipts .....	16.48
 Balance on Hand, April 15, 1937 .....	\$ 33.31

*J. Nuesch, District Treasurer.*

#### Report of District Board of Christian Education

It is impossible in this report to present a complete and true picture of the progress made by the various churches in their Sunday School and educational program due to lack of co-operation.

According to constitutional provision this Board functions only in a supplementary capacity without interfering or meddling with the work of the local churches.

From the incomplete returns that have come in from inquiries we gather that of the total number of communicant members in all of the churches only  $\frac{1}{3}$  are enrolled in the Sunday School, Adult and Young People's department.

It is perhaps significant that the proportional difference between the two items—communicant membership and S. S. Pupils—has grown tremendously within the past few years, the only exception is shown by the student group in our E. L. T. S. in Camp Rose. This school is not only holding its own but substantiates the hope of increased attendance and interest.

The Central Board in a newly effected merger organization holds out the promises of improved programs especially designed to emphasize the unification of material to be used by the entire Merger Church covering all departments. We therefore urge all congregations to avail themselves of the Eden Material if at all possible.

May we say that we feel assured that pastors and laymen alike are courageously getting ready to meet the problems of our day and are doing the very best they can in carrying on and promoting Christian Education in their church.

Respectfully submitted,

*Theo. Tillmanns, Chairman.*

*B. E. Schalow*

#### CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

The California District petitions the General Synod to request the Joint-Commission on Christianity and Social Problems to continue to issue regularly the Lenten, Christmas and other similar messages for the use of pastors and congregations.

The California District petitions the General Synod to recognize the members of the Commission on Social Service and the Commission on Christianity and Social Problems as constituting a provisional Commission on Christian Social Action, and that the General Synod appropriate \$5,000.00 per annum from its Contingent Fund until the Commission provided for in the proposed Constitution be inaugurated.

The California District petitions the General Synod to suggest to the editors of the Messenger and other publications of the church that in each issue space be set aside for the presentation and discussion of Christian Social Problems.

The California District in recognition of the message of Jesus Christ and its incompatibility with war, refuses to sanction, promote or defend war. The District is cognizant of the need of promoting peace through the agency of the ministry, but deems it expedient to support such peaceful gestures as are consistent with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

#### FOREIGN MISSION

The California District urges the two foreign Boards to unite in forming the Board of International Missions, that they proceed accord-

ing to section #97 and 98 of the proposed constitution even though each Board retain its individual corporate existence and rights.

### Resolutions

The California District endorses the synodical President's favorable emphasis on the *National Preaching Mission*.

Whereas, the Synodical Council has to meet at least twice each year, according to the new constitution, and, whereas, the proposed Western Synod is more than 2000 miles long and approximately 1,000 miles wide, and, whereas, all of our congregations are very small, the largest being approximately 200 members, therefore, the California District requests the General Synod either to *divide* this proposed Synod into *two* Synods, or make the necessary appropriation for traveling expenses.

The California District endorses the *new constitution*.

The California District expresses its appreciation for the report of the *Executive Secretary*.

The California District commends Dr. S. D. Press upon his views regarding the *Christian ministry*.

The California District expresses its appreciation and thanks to the outgoing President, Rev. C. Saenger, for his faithful work and service.

The California District heartily endorses the plea of Dr. Lehmann of Elmhurst College for more students from the homes of Evangelical and Reformed people considering the splendid opportunities afforded them in Elmhurst College along all educational lines.

The California District urges the various congregations to greater participation in the educational program of our Church by both Adults and the Young People, since only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the communicant membership is now enrolled in the Sunday School.

The Committee on Home Missions emphasizes the need of more fellowship and visitations with our Mission churches and their societies.

The California District recommends that one Sunday be set aside for the purpose of presenting the cause of our Benevolent institutions.

The California District is of the opinion that the contribution for *debt liquidation* of \$140,777.03, or 38%, is very commendable and urges the repetition of the campaign until the debt is wiped out excepting within those congregations who have paid 100% or better of its quota.

The California District recommends that the Central Pension Board of the General Synod investigate the possibility of establishing a *Home for Retired Ministers* in California.

The California District extends its thanks to those brethren and pastors' widows who have *returned* their pension to the Fund.

The California District requests the Finance Committee to grant to the *Board of Pension and Relief* an increase of not less than \$10,000.00 on the paying basis of the budget for 1938.

The California District petitions the General Synod that the number of meetings of the District Council and the Home Mission Board might be reduced to one per year instead of twice a year as formerly required unless emergency demands an additional meeting in order to reduce the administration expenses.

The California District goes on record as favoring the proposed merger of the *India Mission District* with the United Church of Northern India, and that we assure the Board of Foreign Missions of our confidence in their good judgment regarding the disposal of property.

The California District approves and commends the director's organized efforts and especially the paper, the "*Kingdom Spokesman*," and urges its continuance.

#### GRATUITY

The conference instructed the Treasurer to offer the sum of \$5.00 to Dr. H. J. Hutchins in appreciation of his services.

### Election

*President*: Rev. B. E. Schalow.

*Vice-President*: Rev. O. F. Geisler.

*Secretary*: Rev. Theo. Tillmanns.

*Treasurer*: Rev. J. Nuesch.

*District Council*: Rev. A. F. Schroeder, Mr. A. Leonhardt.

*Home Mission*: Rev. O. Nussmann, Mr. H. Hagen.

*Synodical Representatives*: Rev. B. E. Schalow, Mr. Aug. Gerske.

*Budget Secretary*: Rev. O. F. Geisler.

*Home Mission Board*: Rev. J. Nuesch, chairman (1939), Rev. F. L. Dorn (1941), Rev. O. Nussmann (1943), Mr. H. Hagen (1943), Mr. Geo. Franke (1941), Mr. O. C. Carr (1939).

*Board of Pensions*: Rev. Theo. Tillmanns, Rev. J. Nuesch, Mr. H. Wutzler.

*Board of Christian Life*: Rev. F. J. Schmuck, Rev. Theo. Schulz.

*Foreign Mission*: Rev. C. Saenger, Rev. O. Wichmann.

*Kingdom Service*: Rev. Theo. Schulz.

*Christian Education*: Rev. A. F. Schroeder, Rev. McNelly, Mr. H. Hagen, Mr. J. Irion.

*Brotherhood*: Rev. A. F. Schroeder, Rev. O. Nussmann.

*Women's Union*: Mrs. O. F. Geisler, Mrs. C. Saenger.

*Board of Examiners*: Rev. J. Nuesch, Rev. C. Saenger.

*Evangelism*: Rev. O. F. Geisler, Rev. F. D. Schueler, Rev. P. Branke, Mrs. Natheway.

*Mutual Fire and Storm*: Rev. C. Saenger.

*Promotional*: Rev. A. F. Schroeder, Mr. G. Jenness, Mrs. Andresen.

*Regional Conference*: Southern, Rev. O. F. Geisler; Northern, Rev. Theo. Tillmanns.

Respectfully submitted,

*Theo. T. Tillmanns*, Secretary.

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**32nd CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**COLORADO DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Bethlehem Evangelical Church, Wheatland, Wyo.**  
Rev. G. T. Zucher, Pastor

**April 8 to 11, 1937**

The thirty-second conference of the Colorado District convened in Bethlehem Evangelical Church, at Wheatland, Wyoming, Rev. G. T. Zucher, Pastor, April 8 to 11, 1937.

The opening service began at 7:30 P. M., Thursday, April 8, the Reverend G. T. Zucher serving at the altar and Reverend A. Weinbrauck preached the sermon on the text John 17: 11-24. The Lord's Supper was administered by the above named pastors. At the close of this service the pastor loci spoke words of greeting and welcome on behalf of his congregation, and President Schoenhaar cordially responded. Dr. F. C. Klick, President of the Synod, was present and was heartily welcomed.

**Roll**

<i>Congregation and Place</i>	<i>Pastor and Delegate</i>
Antlers—Immanuel	
Denver—Friedens	W. Schumann—D. Engelman
Denver—Pioneer	H. R. Gebhardt—S. G. Becker
Denver—St. Pauls	W. J. Cramm—Mrs. Elsie Meyers
Fort Collins—Immanuel	J. Pitsch
Fort Morgan—Immanuel	A. Weinbrauck—F. Weimer
Grand Junction—St. Johns	
Greeley—St. Johns	M. Schoenhaar—J. Bernhardt
Idalia—St. Johns	D. Buchmueller—Otto Lidke
Montrose—St. John	
Windsor—Zion	G. Gaiser—F. Seilbach
Laramie, Wyo.—St. Pauls	R. Young
Lingle, Wyo.—St. Paul	K. Jeschke—W. H. Wagner
Wheatland, Wyo.—Bethlehem	G. T. Zucher—J. Wilhelm
Rev. F. Leonhardt, Em., Rev. F. W. Krueger, Em., Rev. J. Kisselmann, Em., Mr. C. Mohr, Com. Worker.	

## Organization

Rev. M. Schoenhaar, Moderator, D. Buchmueller, Vice Moderator.

Visitors: Dr. F. C. Klick, St. Louis; Rev. A. Woth, Worland, Wyo.; Rev. and Mrs. H. Baumgaertel, Scotts Bluff, Nebr.; Rev. and Mrs. A. C. Kroehler, Lyman, Nebr.; Rev. and Mrs. F. F. Steinmark, Mitchell, Nebr.; Rev. and Mrs. J. Erbes, Bayard, Nebr.; Mr. Mills, Mr. A. Oblaender, Fort Collins, Colo.

Excuses: Rev. W. J. Cramm, Rev. L. Leonhardt, Rev. J. Roth, Mr. C. Mohr.

An instructive treatise was read by D. Buchmueller on "The Place of Evil in the Plan of God for Salvation."

Dr. F. C. Klick gave a résumé of the work of our Church, stressing especially the Budget payments and the Debt Liquidation.

## Morning Devotions and Services

The opening devotions of the first session of the District were led by Rev. A. Woth, of Worland, Wyo.; on the second day by Rev. K. M. Jeschke. The German Memorial address on Friday evening was delivered by Rev. K. M. Jeschke, the English address by Rev. R. Young.

Saturday evening: Altar service, Rev. M. Schoenhaar; German sermon by Rev. G. Gaiser.

Sunday: In the Sunday School Rev. M. Schoenhaar spoke in German and Rev. D. Buchmueller in English. Rev. G. T. Zucher served at the Altar and Dr. F. C. Klick gave the message. In the afternoon service, which was the closing service of the conference, Rev. H. R. Gebhardt spoke in English and Dr. F. C. Klick again spoke in German and installed the officers and Judiciary of the District.

## Resolutions

By the Laymen:

1. To give the delegates an opportunity to give their report on the conference to their respective congregations on the first Sunday after the conference the Rev. G. T. Zucher is requested to mimeograph and send the most important resolutions to the delegates.

2. The pastors are asked to find ways and means so that in every congregation of our District the Synodical Budget may be paid in full.

A resolution in regard to the proposed new synodical alignment, which was later re-worded in a District resolution.

## DISTRICT PRESIDENT

1. The thoughts expressed by our worthy President in the preamble to his annual report the District adopts as its own.

2. The best wishes of the District go with those brethren who have left the confines of our District. May the work in their new fields of labor be abundantly blessed. Hearty greetings are extended to the brethren who have joined our ranks. To them we say, "God bless you and your work."

3. Hearty congratulations are extended to Pioneer Evangelical Church of Denver anent their expansion program. May their fondest hopes be more than realized.

4. To Rev. G. T. Zucher, his estimable wife, to the ladies who so graciously ministered to us, to the members of Bethlehem congregation who so kindly opened their homes to us, the Colorado District expresses hearty thanks, as well as to its faithful officers and boards for all their efforts.

Signed:

*S. G. Becker  
Otto Lidke  
John Wilhelm  
D. Buchmueller.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SYNOD

1. The Colorado District perceives in the fact that the churches of the United States felt the urgent need of a united Preaching Mission a sign that the Church is awakening to the truth that the Church and the Country can truly prosper only, if man turns from the material to the spiritual conception of life. We as a church must needs go back to the First Principles and build only on the Foundation laid before, where Christ Jesus is the Chief Corner Stone.

2. The Colorado District urgently requests the Committee on Constitution not to assign the present Colorado District to the proposed West Missouri Synod, and asks that a new Synod be created, to be called Rocky Mountain Synod. This Synod is to consist of all our congregations in the State of Colorado, to which are to be added: St. Johns, Colby, Immanuel, Herndon, both in western Kansas; Zion, Gering, St. Pauls, Mitchell, Salem, Paxton, Zion, Scotts Bluff, Zion, Bayard, St. Pauls, Lyman, all in the Platte Valley of western Nebraska; Zions, Batesville, Friedens, Nisland both in the western part of South Dakota; Bethlehem, Wheatland, St. Pauls, Laramie, Zion, Worland, St. Pauls, Lingle, all in Wyoming; Immanuel, Laurel, Christ, Hardin, located in Montana. This new synod to contain 28 congregations with 3,977 members.

Reason: If assigned to the West Mo. Synod the distances will be too great, too much time lost on the road. Our members will be compelled to travel 1500 to 2000 miles; the cost will be prohibitive, too few congregations in the proposed area can take care of so large a conference. This new set-up would tend to unify the work among the Volga-Germans, which work has been entrusted to the Colorado District to a certain extent, as most of our congregations consist of Volga-Germans.

3. The new Constitution was adopted.

*S. G. Becker  
O. Lidke  
J. Wilhelm  
D. Buchmueller.*

OUR LARGER KINGDOM SERVICE

1. We deeply deplore the fact that the campaign for the Liquidation of the Synodical Debt was not more successful, and believe that the campaign of stewardship education should be continued intensively.

2. The congregations which have not contributed to this cause, or not adequately, should be constantly reminded that they also do their full duty to their Church.

#### BOARD OF ENDOWMENTS AND TRUST FUNDS

The Colorado District notes with pleasure the decreased losses sustained by the Board of Endowments and Trust Funds and gratefully acknowledges the efficient and economical management of these funds.

#### DISTRICT BUDGET

The Colorado District wishes to thank Bro. Buchmueller, Chairman of the Budget Committee, for his very thorough and frank report on the budget payments. It is pleased to note the progress made and expresses the hope that the budget for the current year will be paid in full.

#### DISTRICT TREASURER

The Colorado District accepts the report of its auditing committee, wishes to thank its treasurer for his faithful services and relieves him from all further responsibilities for the past year.

#### SYNODICAL TREASURER

The Colorado District is pleased over the fact that the report of the General Treasurer for the past year shows an increased income over the previous few years and a substantial contribution towards the Synodical Deficit. It expresses the hope that the next General Treasury report will show neither a synodical nor a budget deficit.

#### EDEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

1. The Colorado District wishes to express its appreciation for the expression of the high conception of the Christian ministry as presented in the annual report of the Eden Theological Seminary, and encourages its members to make this institution a special object of prayer.

2. Since the members of the Colorado District are fully convinced of the importance and value of field service in the preparation of our future ministers, they would encourage the faculty of Eden Theological Seminary to ever increase the opportunities in this field.

#### ELMHURST COLLEGE

The District wishes to express its deep appreciation for the valuable services rendered to the educational program of our Church through the many years of faithful service of the late Dr. W. F. Mehl, of Louisville, Ky. and Dr. H. Niefer, of Milwaukee, Wis., as members of the Board of Trustees of Elmhurst College and joins the President of the College in expressing its sincere sympathy to the bereaved families.

*H. R. Gebhardt  
K. M. Jeschke  
F. Seilbach.*

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We rejoice that the united Church now has a united Board for Christian Education, and hope that the necessary funds are supplied to prosper this work.

#### PENSION AND RELIEF

The District rejoices that it was possible for the Board for Pension and Relief to give to our invalid workers the necessary help. All our pastors are urged to become members of this Fund.

We again ask our congregations to pay their budget quotas in full, lest the support of our old pastors be curtailed.

*A. Wienbrauck  
J. Bernhardt  
F. W. Krueger*

#### SPECIAL RESOLUTION

The Colorado District asks the General Council, if ever possible, to grant the Board of Pension and Relief an increase in its apportionments of the budget for the year 1938.

#### DISTRICT HOME MISSION

We thank God that the work of the Home Mission has not been without success during the past year and pray for continued progress and growth. We recommend that the parish Grand Junction-Montrose be reoccupied.

#### EXTENSION FUND

We request the pastors of those congregations which are in arrears in their payments to arouse the feeling of responsibility of their members. We urge the 8% of the borrowers who are ten years in arrears to pay their debts.

#### INTERNATIONAL MISSION

We recommend the work of the Foreign Mission to our congregations and urge our members to remember the Missionaries in their prayers and to support this cause even more than heretofore with their gifts.

*G. Gaiser  
F. Engelmann  
W. H. Wagner*

#### BROTHERHOOD, WOMEN'S UNION, CHARITIES, SOCIAL ACTION

1. The Colorado District endorses the good work of our Churchmen's Brotherhoods. We recommend that the churches of the Colorado District make a serious attempt to interest the men of the churches by organizing Brotherhoods or some organization similar to it in the various churches.

2. We are happy to note the increase in the number of Women's Union Societies for the past year. We recommend that a greater use be made of the Monthly Programs as sponsored by the Women's Union. We commend the Societies for the annual response to secure new readers for our church papers and recommend that the societies of the

Colorado District take a more active part in the national program of the Women's Union.

3. The Federated Charities need our financial and prayer support for the great work of benevolence they do.

4. The Colorado District endorses the program of the Commission on Christianity and Social Action.

*Mrs. Elsie Meyer*

*J. Pitsch*

*Rev. R. J. Young*

#### ELECTIONS

President: Rev. M. Schoenhaar, Greeley, Colo., 300 12 Street.

Vice President: Rev. H. R. Gebhardt, Denver, Colo., 846 Sherman St.

Secretary: Rev. D. Buchmueller, Idalia, Colo.

Treasurer: Mr. Alexander Oblaender, Fort Collins.

Members of the District Council: M. Schoenhaar, Pres., elected 1937; H. R. Gebhardt, Vice President, elected 1937; D. Buchmueller, Secretary, elected 1937; A. Oblaender, Treasurer, elected 1937.

Members at Large: Rev. W. Schumann, elected 1935; Mr. J. Pitsch, elected 1935; Mr. A. Mill, elected 1937.

Pension Board, elected 1937: Rev. G. T. Zucher, Wheatland, Wyo.; Rev. K. M. Jeschke, Lingle, Wyo.; Mr. J. Wilhelm, Wheatland, Wyo.

District Mission Board: Rev. M. Schoenhaar, ex officio; Rev. G. Gaiser, elected 1937-1943; Rev. R. J. Young, elected 1937-1939; Rev. W. J. Cramm, elected 1935-1941; John Bernhardt, elected 1933-1939; Fred Seilbach, elected 1937-1943; Jacob Aab, elected 1935-1941.

District Judiciary: Rev. F. W. Krueger, Rev. J. Kisselmann, Mr. D. Engemann, Mr. Otto Lidke.

Larger Kingdom Service, appointed by the District Council: Rev. H. R. Gebhardt, Chairman; Rev. G. T. Zucher, Secretary; Mr. S. G. Becker, Young People's League Advisor; Rev. H. R. Gebhardt.

The business of the District conference was finished in the two days assigned to its work. Sunday afternoon the District Conference adjourned sine die.

*D. Buchmueller*, Secretary.

*M. Schoenhaar*, District President.

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**48th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**INDIANA DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**St. Lucas Evangelical Church, Evansville, Ind.**  
Rev. Armin Haeussler, Pastor

**April 19 to 22, 1937**

**Introduction**

The Indiana District of the Evangelical Synod of North America assembled for its 48th Annual Conference from April 19 to 22 at the St. Lucas Evangelical Church, Evansville, Indiana. Despite the fact that many of the homes of the members of the entertaining congregation had experienced the ravages of the Ohio River flood disaster, yet arrangements had been made to provide most convenient and comfortable surroundings for the housing of all of the delegates. Although many an excuse might have been offered for not being able to entertain the Conference as had been originally planned, nevertheless, the St. Lucas Congregation together with its pastor bent every effort to make it possible for all to enjoy their stay in the city where "northern energy and southern hospitality meet." And this fine Christian hospitality and spirit prevailed throughout the entire session. The Conference Motto was "I cannot truly bear witness to anything from which I withhold support"; and the Theme for the Conference was "A New Era for Our Church." (Support adequately the program of organized Christian service locally and at large).

**Sermons and Addresses**

The opening evening worship was in charge of the Rev. J. Kalkbrenner of Troy, Ohio, and the Rev. Dr. H. J. Schick, Pastor of Immanuel Church, Chicago, preached the sermon on the topic "Looking Unto Jesus." The morning devotions were in charge of the Rev. A. H. Knipping, who on two successive mornings had for his topics, "The Unity of the Spirit as the Source of United Action," and "The Unity of the Spirit as a Disciplinary Force," respectively. Other Conference sermons were delivered by the Rev. E. J. Koch on "The Cup and the Loaf—A Pledge of the Victory of the Kingdom" (Communion Meditation); the Rev. Dr. F. C. Klick on "The Kind of Christianity the

World Needs"; the Rev. T. S. Schlundt, Jr., on "Commendable Waste." Inspirational addresses were delivered by the following: "The Necessary is the Sacred," by the Rev. Dr. J. P. Meyer; "The Need of Uniform Marriage Laws" by the Hon. Judge B. E. Buente; "The Use of Spiritual Resources in Mental and Nervous Diseases" by Dr. W. E. Eichelberger; "What Can a Layman Do" by Mr. Walter J. Stumpf; "Paying or Giving—Which?" by Mr. J. F. Frohbieter; "The Church's Musical Heritage" by Prof. H. B. Kelsey; and "The Essence of Education" by the Rev. Dr. F. Marion Smith.

### **Business**

The Rev. Robert C. Kuebler of Indianapolis, Indiana, was elected Moderator of the Conference and Mr. Henry J. Schlundt of Evansville, Indiana, was elected the Vice-Moderator. Annual reports were presented by the District President, the Rev. F. P. Puhlmann; the Budget Report by the Rev. A. C. Schnake; the Home Mission Report by the Rev. W. A. Scheer; the Board of Religious Education Report by the Rev. M. Baas; the Pension Board Report by the Rev. G. J. Krumm; the Women's Union Federation Report by the Rev. W. Krueger for Mrs. Jas. Heller, President of the District Federation; the Brotherhood Federation had no report; the Young People's Federation Report by the Rev. W. Zinke; the Foreign Mission Report by the Rev. Dr. D. E. Werner; the Mutual Fire and Storm Association Report by the Rev. T. Goebel; the Orphans' Society Report by the Rev. T. Schumacher; the Christian Social Actions Report by the Rev. H. Koch; the Treasurer's Report by the District Treasurer, Mr. Wm. D. Schott; and Reports of the Three Regional Conference Areas by the Reverends J. W. Dickmann, W. Zinke, and W. R. Wetzeler.

The Reverends A. F. Braun, Louis B. Schnuck, and Edwin Winnecke, and the Bethlehem Evangelical Church of McCutchanville, Indiana, and the Garfield Park Evangelical Church of Indianapolis, Indiana, were received into the membership of the Conference.

Seventy-one lay-delegates and 73 minister-delegates were seated as accredited delegates to the Conference. The rate of equalization of traveling expenses for the ministers and lay-delegates was adopted at \$4.30 and \$4.65, respectively.

Greetings to the Conference were received from the Rev. P. M. Schroeder of Salem Evangelical Church, Rochester, N. Y., a former president of the Indiana District.

### **Resolutions**

#### **DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

1. We are happy to have in our midst the retired pastors. As a token of our appreciation for their services and presence here, we authorize the district treasurer to again pay their traveling and conference expense.

2. The members of the Indiana District reverently acknowledge the

splendid service given by talented and devoted pastors in the service of the Church who have passed to their reward, particularly do we favor two men in our own District: the Rev. Dr. Wm. F. Mehl and the Rev. E. Pusch, who have joined the Church Triumphant. To all who have experienced sorrow, we express our sympathy and commend them to the grace of God. (At the presentation of this resolution a Memorial Service was held in which the Rev. Conrad Held delivered the Memorial Oration).

3. We recommend that the matter of ministerial fees as touched upon by the district president in his report, be given thought and study in the ministerial meetings.

4. We express our appreciation to the officers of the Indiana District and the members of the District Council and Larger Kingdom Service men for the loyal and faithful service rendered in behalf of our church and district.

5. We appreciate greatly the kind hospitality of the pastor, his wife and members of St. Lucas Church in Evansville, the beautiful expressions in song by the various choirs, organists and directors. Also, do we appreciate the work of the committees and all others who had any part in this 48th Conference.

#### GENERAL PRESIDENT

1. We agree with the president general, the Rev. Dr. F. C. Klick and the district president, the Rev. F. P. Puhlmann, that it must ever be the task of the Church to heed the Master's command "Give Ye Them to Eat" and to be alive to the pressing problems of our modern life. We therefore dedicate ourselves anew to the program of Jesus that men through our consecration, devotion and sacrifice may find the fullness of life.

2. We deeply sympathize with the members of our churches that have suffered loss by the recent flood. We congratulate them for their Christian courage which they are demonstrating in the work of rehabilitation. We appreciate the spirit of cooperation among the members and churches which was revealed during this catastrophe, and which has made it possible to cover the loss of the flood-stricken churches to approximately 75%.

3. We heartily approve the decision of the Board of Directors of the Synod in granting our Church in India to become a part of the "United Church of Northern India," leaving time and technique to the discretion of the Board of Directors.

#### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1. The Indian District is happy to know that the work of Christian Education in our Church has been happily correlated.

2. We most enthusiastically anticipate the first National Conference on Christian Education to be held at Lakeside, Ohio, June 28 to July 1, 1937, and urge a hearty participation on the part of all members of the District.

3. The Indiana District recognizes the efficient and constructive efforts on the part of our District Board of Religious Education and recommends the study of the contents of this report to all pastors and Sunday School workers.

4. We heartily commend the administration of Eden Seminary for its efficient leadership and herewith express confidence in its program relative to any projects, such as convocations, special lectures, field work, which will be in the best interests of the Church.

5. The Indiana District recommends to the Board of Eden Seminary and Elmhurst College that in granting degrees they take cognizance of outstanding work done by men in the practical ministry.

6. We rejoice in the fact that the Elmhurst curriculum is such as to attract a larger number of students but, lament the marked decrease in students from our own Evangelical and Reformed homes.

7. The District views with apprehension the startling expense figures in the promotion of the Elmhurst-Eden Advance and the collection of pledges.

#### FEDERATED ACTIVITIES

1. We welcome the timely pamphlet issued by the Commission on Evangelism, "The Way of Spiritual Advance," and commend its use to all pastors.

2. The Indiana District is mindful of the colossal difficulty of merging three official denominational journals with their respective editorial policies; however, we recommend the following modifications in policy:

- a) That all commonplace, local news be omitted from the space devoted to Church News;
- b) Inasmuch as many of the book reviews are primarily of interest only to ministers, that less space be devoted for this purpose;
- c) That the policy of publishing financial receipts be resumed.

3. The Indiana District favors publication of the addresses of the Churches in the "Year Book."

4. We acknowledge with gratitude the splendid achievements of the federated activities as sponsored by the Churchmen's Brotherhood, the Evangelical Women's Union, and the Evangelical League, and urge that, where these organizations exist in the local congregation, they avail themselves of the excellent programs and competent guidance of these agencies and send delegates to all accessible conventions.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS

1. We rejoice in the large number of volunteers for the foreign field from the laity but regret that no applications are on file from the ranks of the ordained ministry. We would urge our younger men to give consideration to service in the foreign field.

2. The Indiana District commands very heartily the contemplated union of our Indian Church with other Indian Churches in a great

national Church of India and believes that this is a forward step in presenting a united front to the people of India.

3. The Indiana District urges the use of our foreign missionaries for special days. Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Scheer deserve our highest commendation for their work in dispensing information regarding our foreign work since their return from India, Japan and China and we would urge the churches of our district to use these eye-witnesses in encouraging the support of our foreign work.

4. The Indiana District appreciates the continued support of the Evangelical Women's Union which has materially aided the foreign mission board in carrying out its task in both India and Honduras.

5. We look with favor upon the calling of the Rev. David D. Baker to the office of Missionary Director whose chief task will be the dispensing of missionary education material.

6. We would recognize the development in indigenous leadership evidenced by the election of the Rev. Yesu Prakash, Indian pastor as president of the India Mission District. We also look with favor upon the election of Indian pastors by many of our churches in India.

7. We congratulate the Rev. Seybold on his splendid work among the high school pupils and the addition of two new buildings on the high school property.

#### HOME MISSIONS

1. We would express our gratitude and appreciation of the splendid and efficient work done by our home missionaries during the past year and would welcome to the fold the Rev. J. S. Gohde, new missionary at St. Matthew's, Evansville. We would commend the "sponsor system" used by the Indiana District Home Mission Board in keeping touch with the various fields, thus bringing about a more efficient and harmonious cooperation between Board and church.

2. We rejoice with the St. Luke's Evangelical Church, Cheviot-Westwood, in the realization of its dream in the erection of a new church and Sunday School building.

3. In view of the fact that other mission churches of our District have been helped financially in the past, and since the St. Matthew Church of Evansville has prospects of immediate growth, we recommend that the money in the District Church Relief Fund, amounting to \$386.05, which has been lying idle for some time be turned over to St. Matthew's Church, Evansville, for use in the building of a parsonage which is badly needed.

#### CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

1. In view of the importance of neutrality legislation to prevent the involvement of the United States in the event of another European or World War, the Indiana District Conference expresses itself in favor of the Pittman-McReynold Bill—Senate Resolution No. 51, believing it to be a step in the right direction; and instructs the district commission on Social Actions in the name of the District to appraise the

proper representatives in Washington of our action, and would petition the House and Senate to vote favorably upon it.

We would further urge all churches of the district to make a study of this Bill and to write their representatives in Congress asking favorable action.

2. In view of the need for general education upon the various fields of social action, we would petition the District Commission to continue to study possible sources of information and bring same to the attention of the churches of the district for the purposes of discussion and study in the various organizations of the churches, particularly as elective courses in the Adult Classes of the Church School.

3. Realizing the need of guidance upon important social measures, we would suggest that the synodical Commission be asked to make statements from time to time voicing the feeling of the Commission upon current social developments in the field of politics and economics and international relations.

4. The Indiana District as a branch of the Church of Christ, that is concerned not only for an advanced application of the principles of Christ to social conditions, but also for the presentation of values that are part of our life, expresses real apprehension at the disregard of law and authority in any group whatsoever. We are, however, of the opinion that the aggressive unrest in labor circles today is symptomatic of long standing grievances and that these should receive fair treatment and honest adjustment in order to remove the temptation to precipitate action on either side.

5. Recognizing the need for unbiased and impassionate discussion of social questions, we would suggest that the synodical commission on Christian Social Action confer with the editorial Board of *The Messenger* relative to the inclusion of a weekly column devoted to suggestions and treatment of topics of vital importance in the field of Social Action.

#### CONSTITUTION AND PROPOSED DIVISIONS

1. The Indiana District goes on record as approving the Constitution and By-laws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, adopted by the General Synod on June 16, 1936.

2. The Indiana District respectfully petitions the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to proceed with the division of the new synods as proposed in the appendix pertaining to division of synods as given in the Constitution and By-laws.

3. The Indiana District petitions the Committee on Division of Synods to include Carmi and Browns, Illinois, in the South Indiana Synod.

#### FINANCE

1. We are indeed greatly pleased to note that the receipts for the Synodical Budget for the first two months of 1937 have exceeded those of last year's by \$8,200.00. Moreover, in keeping with the synodical Treasurer's suggestion, we urge all congregations, wherever possible, to pay their Budget in monthly installments.

2. We rejoice that in 1936, forty-three congregations of our Indiana District met their Budget in full. May we urge all congregations and pastors to follow the good example of these and cooperate most heartily in the larger Kingdom Work.

3. We hereby express our sincere appreciation to the Rev. Alfred Schnake for his efficient service rendered as Budget Secretary.

4. Whereas much of the synodical debt still remains to be liquidated and whereas huge interest payments seriously handicap the Kingdom work of our Church, be it resolved that every pastor and congregation not having done their full duty, continue to cooperate with the Director, Rev. Dr. J. P. Meyer, using methods suitable to local conditions.

5. We are glad to know that the allowances made to our pensioners have not been curtailed for 1937. We urge all pastors and congregations to patronize our Eden Publishing House so as to enable it to again give the specified amount of \$10,000.00 to the Pension Fund, so that the present rate of pensions may be continued.

6. We express our appreciation to the Women's Union for having again contributed so nobly to the Pension Fund in 1936. We also rejoice over the donations of two new cottages in Blue Springs, Mo., and the legacies bequeathed to the Pension Fund.

7. We are grateful to God that the charitable institutions of our Church have been able to continue their work of Christian love during these trying times. We look forward to the continued loyal support of these institutions.

### Special Resolutions

1. Resolved that the officers of the three Regional Conference Areas of the District work together in order to present a unified program to their respective Areas.

2. Resolved that the President, Vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Indiana District receive an honoraria of \$100.00 each for their faithful services.

3. Resolved that the Indiana District pay the janitor of the St. Lucas Church \$15.00.

4. Resolved that the Indiana District pay to the stenographers of St. Lucas Church \$15.00.

5. Resolved that the Indiana District appreciates the good work of the Fire Insurance Secretary, the Rev. T. Goebel, and recommends his reelection for another term.

6. Resolved that the prophetic aspect of the Lord's Supper be emphasized in the future edition of the Book of Worship.

7. Whereas we agree with the expression of the U. S. Supreme Court that "marriage is an institution, in the maintenance of which in its purity the public is deeply interested, for it is the foundation of the family, and of society, without which there would be neither civilization nor safety for any member of the human race."

tion nor progress," therefore be it resolved that we exert every legitimate means to strengthen the marriage relationship, and that we favor the passage of such progressive civil laws of a uniform character as will aid in this objective.

8. Whereas we note a balance of \$8,137.00 in the Relief Treasury (Treasury #2) and

Whereas we understand that a small and inadequate sum is being allowed for the relief of widows and orphans of pastors who for some reason or other failed to be members of the fund, and

Whereas such pastors have given faithful and unselfish service in behalf of the Synod, and

Whereas our congregations are supplying funds for the relief of all aged pastors, widows and orphans,

We petition the Board of Pension and Relief that the present needs of such widows and orphans be more adequately met. While we realize the financial difficulties of the Board, we are convinced that present needs for relief should not be neglected in order to maintain and build up a larger reserve fund.

9. Resolved that the Indiana District requests the offices of our various organizations to handle their literature through Eden Publishing House.

10. Resolved that the District Pastor's Relief Fund, amounting to \$62.29 plus an additional amount from the regular treasury to raise the amount to \$75.00 be donated to a pastor's widow in dire distress.

11. The Indiana District urges the respective Pension Boards of the Evangelical and Reformed Churches to study the entire matter of pensions and develop a system that will adequately care for aged pastors. Is not this the appropriate time to present a more adequate system since the Social Security Act takes care of others and moreover since adjustments will have to be made in the merging of the two Pension systems.

12. In view of the fact that the dissolution of the Indiana District is imminent be it resolved that a committee of three be appointed by the District President to compile a complete history of the Indiana District for presentation at the next District Conference;

Be it further resolved that a copy of this document be placed in the hands of the Historical Commission of the Evangelical Synod.

#### ELECTIONS

The following officers were reelected: President, the Rev. F. P. Puhlmann; Vice-President, the Rev. A. G. Schnake; Secretary, the Rev. H. E. J. Neumann; Treasurer, Mr. Wm. D. Schott; District Council, the Rev. C. Held and Mr. J. F. Frohbieter; Home Mission Board, the Rev. W. A. Scheer and Mr. Geo. Decker; Foreign Mission Board, the Rev. H. H. Bierbaum; Board of Religious Education, the Rev. Carl Scherzer and Miss Lillian Kuhlenkamp; Pension Board, the Rev. E. Stroehlein; Board of Examiners, the Rev. Paul Gehm and Mr. Geo.

Fischer; Mutual Fire and Storm Association, the Rev. T. Goebel; Brotherhood Federation Advisor, the Rev. H. Goetz; Women's Union Federation, the Rev. F. G. Brune.

#### **Adjournment**

All business of the Conference having been completed, the Conference adjourned at noon on April 22, 1937. Having transacted all the business in hand, and having enjoyed a most wholesome fellowship and inspirational meeting, the delegates returned to their homes deeply grateful to the heavenly Father for the privilege of participation and trusting God that through the humble efforts of all some real and blessed contribution had been made not only to the situation as it relates itself to the Indiana District, or to the "E" branch of the Church but to the Kingdom at large as well. May the Lord prosper the work of our hands to His glory and to the extension of the Kingdom among all men.

*Hilmer E. J. Neumann, Secretary,  
F. P. Puhlmann, President.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**44th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**KANSAS DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**St. Paul's Evangelical Church, Holyrood, Kans.**  
Rev. L. G. Marx, Minister  
**April 13 to 15, 1937**

The forty-fourth conference of our district was opened Tuesday evening at 7:45 o'clock with a Communion Service and closed Thursday evening with a service in which the district officers were installed by Dr. F. C. Klick, the synodical representative at the conference. The conference proper was called to order for the business sessions by our president, the Rev. R. F. Richter Wednesday morning. As moderator the Rev. O. J. Krueger was elected, and the Rev. Paul Press, Jr. as vice-moderator. There were in attendance at the conference 26 pastors, sickness preventing the Rev. W. W. Kramme from being present; (two pastors emeriti, who also served as delegates;) three lay members of the district council; and 29 delegates making a total of 58. The business sessions terminated Thursday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock.

**Services—Devotions—Addresses**

In the opening service the Rev. L. G. Marx served at the altar, and Dr. F. C. Klick brought a very inspiring message based on Acts 16: 30 "Sirs, What Must I Do?" The above mentioned also served as ministrants at the Communion table. The pastor of the local church Welcomed the visiting pastors and delegates, to which welcome President R. F. Richter responded. The Rev. O. J. Krueger conducted the liturgical part of the Wednesday evening service, and Dr. Frank G. Richard, pastor of the Community Church at Partridge, Kansas, spoke on "The Temptation Experience of Jesus." Dr. F. C. Klick again served the conference Thursday evening when he preached an impressive sermon regarding the kind of Christianity this world needs (Matt. 5: 16). The Rev. H. Reifs Schneider was the liturgist at this concluding service of the conference. All the services were beautified by choral renditions.

The memorial service was conducted by the Rev. H. Rieder. He read the scripture passage from Hebrews 12: 1-3. Our attention was

directed to the thought that the church militant finds it necessary to have mystic sweet communion" with the Church Triumphant. In separate devotional services the Revs. H. Reifsneider and W. Press spoke on: "The Unity of the Spirit and Individual Freedom" (1 Cor. 3: 22), and "The Unity of the Spirit as the Source of United Action" (Eph. 3: 14-21, 1 Cor. 12: 4-22). Dr. F. G. Richard addressed the conference having as subject, "The Church and Christian Education." The church has a unique task which other institutions cannot perform. Education in the church ought to be such that it prepares the boy or girl for all experiences of life.

#### **Report of the President of the District**

"One is your Master, even Christ."—Matt. 23: 8b.

We are not surprised that the Lord spoke these significant words. During the history of mankind many have assumed the leadership and lordship of life; they do so today. Many people are following these strange masters of men in whose service they are enslaved and are being robbed of the fairest fruits of life. Christians, too, have turned to these aliens of the Kingdom, paying an unholy tribute to them. The results of this strange fellowship is evident in the spiritual lethargy within the church and its half-hearted support of the causes of the greater Kingdom service.

Yes, we have accepted Christ as Lord of Lords and King of Kings, yet for the greater part we are serving temporal, mundane, masters and in doing so we are wasting our energy, our talents and our possessions. It is essential that we remember our sacred vows and fulfill our obligation to Christ, if we would not forfeit his blessings. We cannot serve two masters. If Christ is our Master, then let us put heart and soul into the work of his vineyard, heeding neither the lure of other lords, nor yet the proneness to ease within our own hearts. Emphasize again our single allegiance to Christ as the only Master worthy of all of life. Let the church devote her entire energy to His kingdom demands and she will regain her power and leadership, the spiritual dynamic by which she will establish His kingdom among men. May this conference awaken our zeal for the Master and His Kingdom to the end that we may lead an ever-increasing number of people to Christ which is our just obligation to men. Yes, one is our Master, may serve and worship only Him.

#### **STATUS OF THE DISTRICT**

The membership of the Kansas district at present is composed of 40 congregations, all are members of the synod; 30 pastors, 27 active, 3 emeriti, 4 are not members of the synod, their applications for membership are at hand and will be presented to the conference for action.

#### **CHANGES IN PASTORATES**

##### *A. Transferred to Other Districts*

Rev. Edwin Beier from Wartburg Evangelical, Enid, Oklahoma, to the South Illinois District.

Rev. Paul Kasper from the Newton-Highland Parish to the Iowa District.

Rev. A. F. Rinne from Zion Evangelical, Junction City, Kansas, to the Iowa District.

Rev. O. Nussmann from Salem Evangelical, Wichita, Kansas, to the California District.

Rev. Ruben Bierbaum from Salem Evangelical, Leavenworth, Kansas, to the Indiana District.

Rev. B. Slupianek from St. John Evangelical, Baldwin City, Kansas, to the West Missouri District. Emeritus at Pastor's Home, Blue Springs, Mo.

Rev. G. A. Firgau, D.D., from Friedens Evangelical, Loyal, Oklahoma, to the North Illinois District. Emeritus at Old Folks' Home, Bensenville, Illinois.

*B. Received from Other Districts*

Rev. J. F. Krueger from the Colorado District to Friedens Evang., Hudson, Kansas.

Rev. A. W. Walton (Em.) from the Texas District. At home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Rev. R. Lorenz from Missouri District to St. John Evang., Okeene, Oklahoma.

Rev. G. Krebs (Em.) from Atlantic District. At Home in Norman, Oklahoma.

Rev. G. Kreuzenstein from the Colorado District to St. Paul Evangelical, Marshall, Oklahoma.

Rev. E. J. Moritz from the Indiana District to St. John Evangelical, Baldwin City, Kansas.

*C. Graduates from Seminary assigned to the District by the President of the Synod*

Rev. W. W. Kramme, Eden Seminary to St. Peter Evangelical, Inman, Kansas.

Rev. Paul John Bode, Eden Seminary to Immanuel Evangelical, Newton, Kansas.

Rev. Albert Behle, Eden Seminary, to Trinity Evangelical, Highland Township, Newton, Kansas.

Rev. Carl Edward Berges, Eden and Yale, to Salem Evangelical, Leavenworth, Kansas.

*D. Changes Within the District*

Rev. E. J. Kleffmann from St. John, Colby, Kansas, to Zion Evangelical, Junction City, Kansas.

Rev. Paul Press, Jr., from St. Paul Evangelical, Marshall, Oklahoma, to Salem Evangelical, Wichita, Kansas.

INSTALLATIONS

Rev. Carl Schrupp as pastor of Friedens Evangelical Church, Bern, Kansas, by Rev. Al. Brueggemann, May 19, 1935.

Rev. J. E. Kleffmann as pastor of Zion Evangelical Church, Junction City, Kansas, by Rev. Al. Brueggemann, September 23, 1936.

Rev. R. Lorenz as pastor of St. John Evangelical Church, Okeene, Oklahoma, by Rev. G. A. Firgau, D.D., June 14, 1936.

Rev. P. J. Bode as pastor of Immanuel Evangelical, Newton, Kansas, by Rev. J. F. Krueger, September 20, 1936.

Rev. Albert Behle as pastor of Trinity Evangelical Church, Highland Township, Newton, Kansas, by Rev. J. F. Krueger, September 20, 1936.

Rev. Paul Press, Jr., as pastor of Salem Evangelical Church, Wichita, Kansas, by Rev. E. Nolte, January 24, 1937.

Rev. Carl E. Berges as pastor of Salem Evangelical Church, Leavenworth, Kansas, by Rev. H. Reifsneider, September 27, 1936.

Rev. G. Kreuzenstein as pastor of St. Paul Evangelical Church, Marshall, Oklahoma, by Rev. Erich Pfundt, January 17, 1937.

Rev. Erich Pfundt as pastor of Redeemer Evangelical, El Reno, Oklahoma, affiliated with Oklahoma City, by Rev. A. Walton, December 6, 1936.

Rev. E. Endter, as pastor of St. Paul Evangelical Church, Powhattan, Kansas, by Rev. D. Moritz, May 17, 1936.

Rev. J. F. Krueger as pastor of Friedens Evangelical Church, Hudson, Kansas, by Rev. Aug. Brueggemann, April 28, 1936.

Rev. W. Kramme, as pastor of St. Peter Evangelical Church, Inman, Kansas, by Rev. Aug. Brueggemann, June 2, 1936.

Rev. E. J. Moritz as pastor of St. John Evangelical Church, Baldwin City, Kansas, by Rev. D. Moritz.

#### VACANCIES

The following congregations are vacant at the present time:

Zion, Liberty, Nebr., St. John Mission Creek, Kansas, Wartburg, Enid, Oklahoma, Friedens, Loyal, Oklahoma, St. John, Colby, Kansas, Gnadenfeld, Tangier, Oklahoma.

All are financially unable to keep a pastor and Mission support is available for only one of these, Enid. The problem of supplying these with services is a grave concern of the district. We have tried very hard to find pastors for these congregations, but to no avail.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Rev. B. Slupianek celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination on June 21, 1936.

Friedens Evangelical Church, Hudson, Kansas, Rev. J. F. Krueger pastor, built a basement under their church and dedicated it on January 17, 1937.

The Evangelical Church, Midland, dedicated their new church February 7, 1937. The old church was destroyed by fire on Palm Sunday, 1936.

#### RECEIVED INTO MEMBERSHIP

The St. Paul Evangelical Church, Holyrood, Kansas, was received

into membership of the Synod in a service conducted by Rev. R. F. Richter, October 11, 1936.

#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following pastors have applied for membership in the Synod:

Rev. W. W. Kramme, pastor of St. Peter's Church, Inman, Kansas, graduate of Eden Seminary.

Rev. P. J. Bode, pastor of Immanuel Evangelical Church, Newton, Kansas, graduate of Eden Seminary.

Rev. Albert Behle, pastor of Trinity Evangelical Church, Highland, Kansas, graduate of Eden Seminary.

Rev. Carl E. Berges, pastor of Salem Evangelical Church, Leavenworth, Kansas, graduate of Eden Seminary.

#### DEBT LIQUIDATION

The campaign to liquidate the current debt of the Synod was conducted in nearly all of the congregations of the district last fall. We are grateful for this cooperation. The results are tabulated elsewhere in these reports and disclose varying degrees of effort and interest. We fully appreciate the difficulties extant in our churches, but feel that we need to encourage continuation of the call for gifts until all of our churches have contributed a just portion of this cause. We want to thank those congregations who have done more than their legal share in this campaign. May others do likewise.

#### SUNFLOWER TRAINING SCHOOL

The Sunflower E. L. T. S. will again open its doors to our people this summer at Friends University, Wichita, Kansas. We trust that pastors and congregations will put forth every effort to have at least one from each church in attendance this year. Some congregations have always had from five to twelve students at the school each year, surely it should be possible for each church to have one present this year. It is essential that we use the school if we wish to keep it in our district.

#### THE CONSTITUTION

The General Synod adopted a constitution for the Evangelical and Reformed Church at Fort Wayne, Indiana, on June 16, 1936, and by action of the General Synod this document is submitted to the Districts and Classes for approval. Your delegates to the General Synod were your representatives and worked on this constitution for you. And now you will have your opportunity to study this constitution and to adopt or reject it. Changes cannot be made at this conference. If two-thirds of the districts and the classes vote favorably, the General Synod at its next meeting will declare it adopted and in effect.

#### IN MEMORIAM

We are very grateful to the Lord that we are able to report no deaths among the pastors of our district during the past year. Many of the pastors of the synod, however, were called to the higher life, also a large number of our lay members answered the final call. The district extends its heartiest sympathy to all who mourn the loss of loved

ones. A special memorial devotion will be conducted during the conference in loving memory of these departed friends.

#### CONCLUSION

We are happy to note a substantial increase in the membership of our churches during the past year. May the coming year bring a still larger number into the fellowship of the church. Let us do our part that it may become a reality.

Respectfully submitted,  
*R. F. Richter*, President.

#### New Members

Upon recommendation of the Ministerium the following were received into membership of the Synod: The Revs. A. H. Behle, C. Berges, P. J. Bode, and W. W. Kramme.

#### Resolutions

##### EDEN SEMINARY

1. The Kansas District expresses its appreciation especially to Dr. William Baur for his untiring and faithful service to Eden Seminary over a period of thirty-two years, also for the services of Prof. H. H. Lohans and the Rev. H. P. Schultz and wishes them God's continued blessing.

2. Reading of the inspiring and stimulating convocation held at Eden Seminary this year we wish to highly recommend the same to all pastors. We suggest that these convocations be held early enough in the year so as not to conflict with preparations for Lent.

##### ELMHURST COLLEGE

1. Realizing the great opportunities offered by Elmhurst College, academically, socially and religiously, and hearing their plea for a larger enrollment, we urge our constituency to send their sons and daughters to our own college.

##### BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1. We are happy to note that the Board of R. E. was the first board to unify its work to the satisfaction of the entire constituency.

2. We endorse the plea of the Board of R. E. and the Evangelical League Board to be granted a proportionate share of the increase of allotments granted the other boards. For the future we favor a readjustment of the proposed guaranteed amount of said boards.

##### CHURCH BROTHERHOOD

1. The Kansas District is glad to note that the Evangelical Brotherhood and Reformed Churchmen's League have merged into the Churchmen's Brotherhood thereby becoming a greater power for good in our united church. We urge the Churchmen's Brotherhood to accept the challenge of the 200,000 men in our united church to enlist them in Kingdom service.

#### WOMEN'S UNION

1. We commend the fourteen annual projects of the Women's Union to our local women's organizations as a plan for their work during this year.

#### HOME MISSIONS

1. The Kansas District feels confident that the Home Mission Board has done its best in carrying on the work of Home Missions considering the means placed at its disposal and urges a more whole-hearted support of this important phase of Kingdom work on the part of all our churches.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS

1. The District heartily approves of the steps so far taken by the Foreign Mission Board in cooperation with the movement in India to form one united indigenous Christian church.

#### PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

1. The Kansas District fully appreciates the difficulties confronting the board and sincerely hopes that an increase in budget receipts will enable it to provide the needed funds for maintaining at least the present level of pensions.

2. The Kansas District requests the finance committee of the Evangelical Synod to increase the budget allowance of the Pension and Relief Board by at least \$10,000.00.

#### COMMISSION ON CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

1. The District reiterates its stand for peace and urges our churches to cooperate with all movements that have the purpose of educating the American public in principles of pacifism.

2. The District recommends that \$25 be placed at the disposal of the District Commission on Christian Social Action.

3. The District sincerely appreciates the leadership of the Commission on Christian Social Problems in our common effort to understand the implications and meaning of the Christian Gospel for modern society. In accordance with the suggestion of the Commission we encourage the formation of discussion groups within our churches where men may meet for the purpose of grappling with the relationship of the Christian to the economic and social problems of our day.

#### EDEN PUBLISHING HOUSE

1. We recommend a wider use of all materials, which can be purchased from or through the Eden Publishing House, in preference to like material published by other companies. In view of the present financial standing of Eden Publishing House, we believe this loyalty should be upheld.

2. That greater stress be laid upon the use of our denominational periodicals: The Messenger, Friedensbote, Light Bearer, etc.

#### BUDGET DEPARTMENT

1. Because our boards have made every effort to cut expenses and have with limited means carried out the work without any serious

entrenchment, we therefore would encourage the congregations to show their appreciation by putting forth greater efforts to raise their synodical budget.

#### DISBURSEMENTS

1. To the congregations of the Kansas District, who have raised their budget in full, the conference expresses its gratitude. We also want to give full recognition to the congregations who, despite adverse conditions, have so splendidly responded to their obligations. We hope that their efforts to raise their full apportionment will be crowned with success.

#### DEBT LIQUIDATION

1. We wish to commend the churches of the Kansas District for their loyal support and cooperation in the debt liquidation program. Though we were second in rating we hope the future will yield 100%.

#### COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

1. We endorse the efforts of the Commission on Evangelism in its emphasis on spiritual living and gratefully accept the pamphlet "The Way of Scriptural Advance" and the Lenten devotional booklet, which encourages pastors' and laymen's retreats for the deepening of spiritual life.

2. We endorse the National Preaching Mission with the feeling that it has contributed greatly toward the spiritual impetus of a united Protestantism.

#### MUTUAL FIRE & STORM INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

1. We express satisfaction with the report of the Association, and rejoice in its progress. We extend our sympathy to Inspector Helmkamp and Secretary Rasche in their recent bereavement.

#### CONSTITUTION

1. We recommend that the Kansas District Conference in session at the St. Paul Evangelical Church, Holyrood, Kansas, accept the Constitution and By-laws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church as adopted by the General Synod on June 16, 1936.

2. Whereas most of our churches in the proposed West Missouri Synod do not have the facilities to entertain large conferences and whereas traveling expenses are considerably less in small synods, we petition the commission on constitution and the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church that the states of Kansas and Oklahoma be made a separate synod and be called the Kansas Synod.

#### SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

1. We extend to the Rev. and Mrs. L. G. Marx and the Holyrood congregation the sincere appreciation of this conference for the kind hospitality manifested during our stay here.

2. We give a special vote of thanks to Dr. F. C. Klick, and Dr. F. G. Richard for their contributions to the conference.

3. We extend a word of thanks to all out-going officers for services rendered in the past.

4. We regret that illness has kept the Rev. W. W. Kramme from spending these days with us and we wish for him a rapid and complete recovery.

5. We join with our President in calling for a more positive faith and a fuller consecration on the part of ministers and laymen in order that we may be able to face the perplexing conditions of our day.

6. We voice our appreciation to our constituency as a whole for the whole-hearted response given to the flood relief appeal.

7. That we ask the pastors to be prompt and accurate in their recording of statistics for synodical headquarters.

8. That this conference approve the district council's action in providing the necessary funds to make it possible for Dr. A. Firgau to enter the Bensenville home.

9. In view of the fine showing the Kansas District made in the debt liquidation campaign, we suggest that those churches which have not done their share, do so if at all possible.

10. That we recommend the teaching of the cooperative way of life, as we find it in the principles of the cooperative movement, in our church schools and other church organizations.

11 (a). That we oppose any conscription bill before Congress, especially the Hill-Sheppard bill now before congress.

(b). That the secretary make our opposition known by writing to Senators Capper and McGill of this State.

12 (a). That we support the Ludlow bill which is a proposal to allow the people of the United States to vote in a referendum on war.

(b). That the secretary make our support known by writing to Senators Capper and McGill of this state.

13. That the Kansas District favors the adoption of the objectives of the Joint Commission on Christian Social Action by the general synod.

### **Elections**

*District Officers:* President, the Rev. R. F. Richter; Vice-President, the Rev. O. J. Krueger; Secretary, the Rev. A. F. Werner; Treasurer, Mr. William Eckstein, Marysville, Kansas.

*General Council:* The Rev. R. F. Richter; Mr. John Abele, Wamego, Kansas.

*District Council:* Mr. C. Gerstenberger, Eudora, Kansas.

*District Court:* Pastors: E. Moritz, H. Rieder, G. Kreuzenstein. Laymen: H. J. Willig, Wamego, Kansas; Ed. Becker, Bushton, Kansas.

*Board of Home Missions:* Pastors: D. H. Moritz (6 years); C. Schrupp (4 years). Lay member: C. Gastrock, Baldwin City, Kansas.

*Board of Religious Education:* Pastors: E. Nolte (6 years); P. J. Bode (2 years). Lay member: W. Lorenz, Okeene, Oklahoma.

*Board of Pension and Relief:* Mr. William Ochel, Hudson, Kansas.

### **APPOINTED BY DISTRICT COUNCIL**

*Kingdom Service Committee:* the Revs. Paul Press, Jr., D. Moritz, E. Pfundt.

*Regional Program Committee Chairmen: Eastern Region, the Rev. H. Reitschneider; Western Region, the Rev. Aug. Brueggemann; Oklahoma Region, the Rev. G. Kreuzenstein.*

### **Various Business**

Dr. F. C. Klick, as President of the Synod, made a report. He expressed his appreciation for the cooperation the Kansas District has given in the past, stating that the Kansas District was practically on top in the matter of debt liquidation. We are not through with this campaign by any means, said the President of the Synod. We must raise the remainder. There is no other way. It is the burden of all the members in the congregations of the Synod. Every congregation and every individual member should do his share. Those congregations, who have not yet attained the goal, are challenged to action.

Dr. Klick appealed to all delegates to acquaint themselves with the work of the conference, so as to be able to more fully cooperate with the ministers in putting over the program of the church. The work of the Synod is in reality the work of a number of congregations. If all congregations band themselves together, they, in a cooperative movement, carry out the command of the Master. He further urged the delegates to acquaint their churches with all information regarding the work being done by the Synod. Look upon the work of the church as an opportunity rather than a duty.

A motion carried that the devotional address of the Rev. W. Press be submitted to the editors of the Eden Bulletin for publication.

The Rev. W. W. Kramme was excused by the conference from attendance and participation in traveling expenses.

The average traveling expense for the pastors was \$3.45 and for the laymen \$6.90.

The invitation extended to the conference by the Friedens congregation, Bern, Kansas, to meet there next year, was accepted.

*A. F. Werner, Secretary.*

*R. F. Richter, President.*

*O. J. Krueger, Moderator.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**50th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**MICHIGAN DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Zion Evangelical Church, Wakarusa, Ind.**  
Rev. Phil. R. Pobanz, Pastor

**May 10 to 12, 1937**

The Conference of the Michigan District opened with a communion service on the evening of May 10th, at Zion Evangelical Church of Wakarusa, Indiana, (Rev. Phil. Pobanz, pastor). The host pastor conducted the altar worship and Rev. J. L. Ernst, Ph.D. preached the sermon. The impressive communion service was conducted by Pastors Anderson and Rebmann, assisting Pastor Pobanz.

Session opened on May 11th with a devotional service led by the Rev. W. F. A. Simon. The president, Rev. Edwin F. Mayer was elected moderator and the vice-president, Rev. Al. Hardt was elected vice-moderator. Various reports were read at different times and excerpts of these are appended to these minutes. The traveling expense was set at two cents per mile for the driver of each car and at one cent for each additional passenger per mile of distance traveled. Very favorable reports were presented by Rev. Fr. Lueckhoff, superintendent of the Orphan's Home, and by Rev. J. L. Ernst, president of the Board of the Deaconess Hospital. Greetings were read from the president of the Synod, Rev. F. C. Klick, D.D.

Afternoon sessions were begun with a devotion led by Rev. E. J. Soell. An address was given by Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D., representing the Kingdom service work. Following routine business, a memorial service was conducted by Rev. M. C. Hoefer. Evening services were conducted by the Pastors A. G. Frohne at the altar and Rev. W. Witt in the pulpit.

On May 12th a devotional service, led by Rev. Theo. Eisen, opened the sessions. An address was given by Rev. L. W. Goebel, D.D. on "The State of the Church."

Rev. H. E. Totzke led the opening devotions for the afternoon. An address on "The Christian Social Order" was presented by Rev. Herbert Brodt, pastor of the Evangelical Church of Peace, of Chicago, Ill. A discussion followed. Under suspension of the rules, all officers of

the district were reelected for the interim of setting the new district boundaries. A ministerial session was held and upon the basis of a recommendation later before the reassembled conference the following pastors were received into membership of the Synod: Carl H. Schultz, Farmington, Mich.; Arthur Ebeling, Grand Haven, Mich.; Ralph L. Rebman, Mishawaka, Indiana.

The question as to government census of churches and pastors was raised and an explanation in the synodical papers was requested. An invitation was received and accepted to convene at Zion Evangelical Church, of South Bend, for the next conference. All members of boards, whose terms expire, were also held over for the interim with the exception of Rev. Wulfmann on the General Council (resigned) whose place will be taken by president Mayer. In a final rush of business, the conference sessions closed a day earlier. Evening services were conducted by Rev. Theo. R. Schmale and Rev. Herbert Brodt, preaching. Officers were installed in a quiet and earnest way by Rev. Goebel. The conference days were very pleasant and the host church and pastor made us feel welcome and thankfully satisfied.

#### **From the President's Report**

The district has 81 pastors, 1 commissioned worker, 84 congregations.

In memoriam: Rev. C. Krickhahn, Feb. 17, 1937; Rev. O. Papsdorf, May 5, 1937; Mrs. Rosa Hess, Sept. 3, 1936.

Grosse Pointe (Grace Church) has erected a new church at a cost of \$30,000. Our hospital will soon dedicate a \$300,000 addition.

#### **FROM THE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

The records of the District Treasurer, Mr. Emil Schwartz, have been audited and found correct and the district releases him from his obligation for the past term and voices its appreciation for his faithful services.

The Michigan District is happy to note that "The Messenger" has found its way into more than 20,000 Evangelical and Reformed homes. Although we fully realize the difficulties involved in launching this new paper, we nevertheless urge that those changes and improvements essential to the future success of the paper *be not delayed*.

We note with grateful satisfaction the splendid progress made in each branch of our Mission work in India, the challenging opportunities offered by the ever-changing conditions there, and the steadily increasing recognition of the claims of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

To our faithful workers in Honduras, who are laboring under special difficulties which are repercussions of political conditions in Spain, we extend a sympathetic word of encouragement, that faith in the Lord may be rewarded who can quickly change adverse conditions or make them serve His cause.

The Michigan District endorses the call extended to Rev. David D. Baker of Baltimore to serve as Director of Missionary Education.

The Michigan District endorses the union of our India Mission District with the United Church of Northern India in the interest of a national Christian Church in India.

We urge our churches to contribute liberally toward the establishment of a missionary lectureship at Elmhurst and Eden as a memorial to the late Dr. Paul A. Menzel.

The Michigan District urges that an annual offering be taken by every congregation for the work of the Orphan's Home.

The Michigan District hopes many of our churches will avail themselves of the splendid opportunity to set themselves a monument for Christian love by furnishing a room in the new Hospital building.

The Michigan District after due consideration, approves the new constitution adopted by the General Synod at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

We heartily commend the action of the Ann Arbor region for making the Albion Church its practical home mission project.

We instruct the Michigan District to take definite action in organizing interest and support for student work at the University of Michigan, urging them to seek the help of a local pastor at Ann Arbor and the help of the National Board of Christian Education.

We look forward to the development of the Experiment in Field Work into a permanent program at Eden Seminary.

We hope the pre-theological work at Elmhurst will be continually stressed so that Eden Seminary will have an adequate supply of theological students from Elmhurst.

We do not favor the increase of the appropriation to Elmhurst College to \$70,000. We feel the Eden-Elmhurst Advance should be developed to take care of the increased needs of Elmhurst.

Agreeing with the President General the united effort of the Protestant Church, put forth through the preaching mission, has made a profound impression upon the life of church members as well as upon those indifferent toward spiritual things, we pledge ourselves to exert every influence to preserve the blessings received by continuing said mission.

The Michigan District accepts the *general* plan of division of the Church into synods as submitted by the committee on Constitution and Charter.

The Michigan District expresses its appreciation to Rev. H. P. Vieth for his untiring devotion in the promotion of Kingdom causes of the Synod and wishes him well in his new field of endeavor.

The Michigan District recognizes the need for field workers in religious education and looks forward to the employment of such when financial conditions warrant.

The Michigan District urges the publication of new and merged Sunday school literature in spite of present obstacles.

The Michigan District believes that in harmony with the resolution of the General Synod of 1936 to the effect that the apportionments for the various boards remain the same for the next biennium, the budget apportionment for the Board of Religious Education should be readjusted, as that it may be in harmony with the allotment to other boards, so as not to retard the existing programs of work.

We deem it to be of the utmost importance that we use all sources of information made available to us, that we make them available to our people, so that on the basis of thorough information and a quickened social conscience the Church may proceed to definite social action.

We call attention to the District resolution of last year calling for the appointment of a committee on Christianity and Social Problems in our district and urge its appointment.

The Michigan District recommends to the General Council that the Board for Pension and Relief be granted an increase of \$10,000 in the budget allowance for 1938.

We petition the General Council to confer with the Board of Pension and Relief, asking them to distinguish more clearly between Pension and Relief, placing a more business-like emphasis upon the insurance value of the payment of pensions and stressing less the charity aspect of relief payments.

Since the Buffalo Brotherhood Convention last year voted to hold a convention every four years and to hold area conventions in the intervening years, be it resolved that such an area convention be held in the Michigan District.

We urge the support of the District for the Young People's Convention which is to be held in Manchester, Mich., some weekend of September of this year.

*Victor P. Frohne, Secretary.*

Read and approved, *Edwin F. Mayer, President.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**47th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**MINNESOTA DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Zion Evangelical Church, Le Sueur, Minn.**  
Rev. Otto A. Muecke, Pastor

**May 18 to 20, 1937**

The 47th Conference of the Minnesota District convened at Zion's Evangelical Church, Le Sueur, Minnesota, Otto A. Muecke, Pastor, May 18-20, 1937. Forty-eight pastors and forty-one lay-delegates were in attendance. Visitors who addressed the conference were Dr. J. P. Meyer of St. Louis, Director of the Synodical Kingdom Service Committee, and official synodical representative at the conference, Dr. Paul Grosshuesch, President of Mission House, Plymouth, Wisconsin, and the Rev. Wm. Rest of Elgin, Illinois who spoke in the interest of the Evangelical Orphanage of Bensenville, Illinois.

The conference was opened with a Communion Service at 1:30 p. m. on Tuesday. The Rev. Erwin H. Bode of Minneapolis, Secretary of the District, preached, and the local pastor, the Rev. Otto A. Muecke, President of the District, served as liturgist. On the first evening, Zion's Choir presented the Cantata, "The Seven Last Words" by Dubois. On Wednesday evening the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Minnesota District was commemorated in a special worship. Dr. J. P. Meyer preached and the Rev. Wm. J. Riemann of Minneapolis, Vice-President of the District served at the Altar. Booklets, especially prepared by a selected committee, to commemorate the Golden Anniversary of the District, were distributed. These booklets will also be distributed throughout the churches of the District at special anniversary services to be conducted during summer or fall. The two morning devotions were conducted by the Rev. Geo. J. Low of Duluth. On the second morning the devotion was in the nature of a Memorial Service.

The business sessions of the conference were begun at 3 p. m. on Tuesday. The Rev. Otto A. Muecke, President, was elected Moderator for the duration of the conference, and the Rev. Wm. J. Riemann, Vice-President, Vice-Moderator. Reports of the President, the various Boards, Committees and Commissions were read to the conference and referred to committee. Upon recommendation of the Committee on Credentials

and Excuses the following excuses were granted: Rev. R. Reidenbach of Elkton, S. Dak., from attendance at the conference. No pastor except the emeriti were excused from participation in the traveling expense. Excused from attendance was Ebenezer Congregation of Albany, Minn., but not from traveling expenses. The congregations: Peace of Bertha, Minn., Zion, Long Prairie, Minn., St. John's, St. Paul, Minn., St. Peter, Stillwater, Minn., Peace, Elkton, S. Dak., Unity, Garretson, S. Dak., and St. Paul's, Duluth, Minn. were neither excused from attendance nor from participation in the traveling expense. Bethel Congregation, near Judson, N. Dak. was excused from attendance and participation in traveling expense.

The following were received into membership in the Synod, pending action of the Synodical Board of Directors: The Revs. Karl B. Kollath, Fergus Falls, Minn., Paul R. Meyer, Prescott, Wis., M. R. Zielinski, St. Cloud, Minn. The St. Paul's Church of Henderson, Minn. was received into the fellowship of the Synod. Results of elections are found later in this report.

A letter of greeting from Dr. Albert Muecke, Em., of Keokuk, Ia., was read by the Secretary. A telegram of greeting was sent to Dr. Muecke, and one of condolence to the Schadewald Family of Duluth, Minn., at the loss of their aged father, Fred Schadewald, who passed away at his home during conference days.

Traveling expenses were as follows: Pastor's, total \$185.89, per capita \$4.70; Lay Delegates, total \$225.26, per capita \$5.80.

The Ministerial Session, and the Session of the Laymen took place on Wednesday afternoon. Discussions there are reflected in several of the resolutions passed subsequently by the Conference.

The conference adjourned at 2:20 p. m. on Thursday with the singing of the hymn, "Striving Onward, Pressing Forward" and a prayer by the Rev. Erwin Koch of St. Paul.

### Resolutions

#### ON THE REPORT OF THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

1. The Minnesota District heartily endorses the statement of its honorable President that the Church of Jesus Christ is today and will always be the most powerful agency for good and justice in the world.

2. We welcome into the Minnesota District our new co-workers:

J. P. Kaiser from the Kansas District.

Milton R. Zielinski, graduate of Eden.

Paul R. Meyer, graduate of Eden.

H. C. Dallmann, Em., from the Wisconsin District.

Karl B. Kollath, graduate of Eden.

G. Nussmann from the West Missouri District.

E. F. Menger from the Indianapolis Classis of the Midwest.

3. We rejoice with those ministers and congregations who were permitted by the grace of God to observe anniversaries, the dedication or rededication of their sanctuaries.

4. We bow our head in humble submission to the Lord of Life and Death who has called so many faithful workers to their reward in Heaven, especially Mr. Fred Endorff, a faithful member of the Minnesota District Home Mission Board.

5. The District commends the action of St. John's Church at Fairmont and Friedens (rural) Norwood in increasing their pastor's salary and hopes that other congregations will follow their good example.

6. We favor the retention of the new bonds from Faith Church, Minneapolis, for the time being and leave their future disposition to the next conference.

7. The District favors an appropriation of \$100.00 for the North Star E. L. T. S. to be taken out of the District treasury.

8. The District recommends that every congregation observe the 50th Anniversary of the District in a special service sometime this summer or fall and that an offering be taken on this occasion to help defray the expense of the publication of the Anniversary Booklet.

9. The District accepts the gracious offer of the Church of Peace, Rochester, to entertain the special District Conference in 1938. We also recognize the invitation for the entertainment of the Conference following that of next year.

10. We express our hearty appreciation to the District President and his cabinet for their untiring and efficient service rendered to the District.

11. We gratefully acknowledge the hospitality of Rev. and Mrs. O. Muecke and Zion's Evangelical Church, Le Sueur, for their wonderful hospitality during the days of our sojourn in Le Sueur.

12. The District grants unto the janitor of Zion's Evangelical Church, Le Sueur, the sum of \$10.00 in appreciation of services rendered.

13. The District recognizes the efficient work of the clerical force and awards them a gratification of \$15.00.

#### ON REPORT OF CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

1. The Minnesota District approves the constitution and by-laws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church as adopted by the General Synod on June 16, 1936.

2. We ask the General Synod to eliminate the West Canada Classis, the Canada and Montana-Missouri District from the suggested boundary of the Minnesota-North Dakota Synod, and suggest that these be classified as a Mission Synod.

3. We ask that definite geographical lines be established to avoid areas that might be termed "no man's land."

#### ON REPORT OF GENERAL AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF GENERAL COUNCIL

1. At all times, especially in times of turmoil, do men and women come to the House of God with souls hungering not after wisdom of the world but after the bread of life as it is found only in the Word of God. Let us ever be mindful of the Lord's injunction: "Give ye them to eat," and let us break them the bread of life.

2. Against sundry philosophies of life not found in the Word of

God as well as antagonistic propaganda of every sort, it is necessary for all pastors to take a fearless stand and to come out boldly with clear-cut and positive statements of Christ's teachings.

3. We find in the fact that anti-God and anti-Christian teachings have found such a place in the thinking of many in our time an accusation against the Church that she has fallen down in some of the services she owes mankind, and plead that she may re-consecrate herself to Him, who came not to be ministered unto, but to minister unto others.

4. We are gratified to note that the work of completely merging the two constituents of our Evangelical and Reformed Church has progressed so smoothly and satisfactorily, and eagerly look forward to the time when it will have been consummated entirely.

5. The Minnesota District heartily approves the plan of our mission churches in India to become a part of "The United Church of Northern India," as it is quite in line with our position on union.

6. We offer to all pastors' families of our church who sorrow for beloved ones that have passed on to the abundant life, as well as to all Evangelical and Reformed homes into which the Angel of Death has entered in the past year our heartfelt sympathy. May God make His own presence their comfort, and turn their sorrowing into rejoicing in His victory.

ON REPORT "CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS," BUDGET SECRETARY,  
SYNODICAL KINGDOM SERVICE AND DEBT LIQUIDATION

*Christianity and Social Problems*

The Minnesota District expresses its appreciation for the definite progress made by the Committee on Christianity and Social Problems.

We express our deep gratitude for the stirring message presented by this committee in The Lenten Message of 1937.

We hope that the Committee will continue to voice the imperative message of Christ in its social emphasis.

*Budget Secretary*

We express our deep gratitude for the efficient and diligent labors of the District Secretary of Budget.

We desire to make the definite request that funds for Synodical purposes within the separate congregations be sent directly to the Synodical treasury and not be misappropriated to local channels.

We move that those pastors and congregations who are contributing little or nothing to the Synodical Budget become aware of their Greater Kingdom privileges and responsibilities and make definite efforts to do their share.

*Synodical Kingdom Service and Debt Liquidation*

The Minnesota District, in keeping with the resolution and recommendation of the Board of Directors of the Synod, endorses the 1937 plan and program for synodical debt liquidation and agrees to prevail on all pastors and congregations in the district to regard participation

in this project as a direct obligation, and also promises to do all in its power through the offices of the District Kingdom Service Commission to help the congregations to achieve the goal during the present year.

The District condemns the practice of some churches in the District of listing their memberships arbitrarily and contrary to the specified requirements of the Synod with the apparent intent to secure a proportionately lower synodical budget quota, thereby evading in part their just responsibility towards the work of the church at large, on the one hand; and on the other hand passing the burden to others who already are carrying a full load. Therefore the Minnesota District calls on all churches of the District to be scrupulously conscientious and exacting in reporting their memberships to synodical headquarters.

**ON REPORT OF GENERAL TREASURER, DISTRICT TREASURER, FIRE AND STORM INSURANCE, ENDOWMENT AND TRUST FUNDS**

1. We appreciate the care with which those to whom the financial affairs of the District and Synod have been entrusted have executed their trust and express to them our gratitude.

2. Concerning the report of the Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Association:

a. We note with sincere relief the fact that there have been no heavy losses by fire or storm within the District during the past year.

b. Your committee recommends the Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Association to the members of the District and hopes that all the members will see their way clear to insure their property with this Association.

3. We note with pleasure that the directors of the board for endowments and trust funds have been able to cut their losses from \$4.22 to \$2.24 per thousand dollars invested.

4. The books of the District Treasurer have been audited by your committee and found in good order.

5. Resolved: That a vote of thanks be extended the District Treasurer and that he be released from his obligations for the past conference year.

**ON REPORT OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND EDEN PUBLISHING HOUSE**  
*Historical Commission*

1. The Minnesota District favors the proposed observance of the centennial of the founding of the Evangelical Synod in 1940.

2. The Historical Commission should be continued and receive the support of the Church.

3. The Commission should send copies of all matters of historical significance to the Minnesota State Historical Society with headquarters at St. Paul.

*Publications and Eden Publishing House*

1. The Minnesota District approves the closing of the Chicago Branch of Eden Publishing House for reasons of economy, and commends fair treatment of employees at the time of closing.

2. We regret the loss of \$5,302.92 and feel that such a loss need not be incurred in the new year.
3. We are surprised that the Messenger has less than 20,000 readers at present and recommend:
  - a. That a sermonette on a Gospel or an Epistle text phrased in simple language and appealing especially to the shut-ins, be a weekly feature of this publication.
  - b. That the general tone be designed to appeal more to the average layman. This involves less a change of content than a simplification of language.
  - c. That the women's organizations in the local churches accept the responsibility for securing new subscriptions.
  - d. That the consolidation of the editorial and subscription offices be effected as soon as possible.

ON REPORT OF PENSION AND RELIEF, CHURCH EXTENSION, DISTRICT  
CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, FEDERATION OF CHARITIES

*St. Paul's Home for the Aged*

1. The Minnesota District recommends that both pastors and lay delegates keep on encouraging support of our St. Paul's Home for the Aged, St. Paul, Minnesota. We express a word of appreciation to all who heretofore have helped support the Home, and also to the officers and Board for their untiring efforts.
2. We express our wholehearted appreciation to the Rev. Karl Koch for his blessed service in behalf of the Home.

*Deaconess Home and Hospital, Faribault, Minn.*

1. The Minnesota District expresses a word of thanks and appreciation to the outgoing members of the Board.
2. We urge upon the pastors and constituency of our District to support the Deaconess Home and Hospital, and suggest that wherever possible individuals and congregations become members of the Deaconess Society.

*Pension and Relief*

1. We acknowledge with deep appreciation the thankoffering of the Women's Union toward Pensions and Relief.
2. We rejoice over the improvements made on the Pastor's homes and building of new homes in Blue Springs, Mo.
3. We trust both boards will soon bring about a merger of both pension funds and thus lay a foundation for a stronger pension system in our church.
4. The District requests the General Council to grant not less than \$10,000.00 additional to the Board of Pension and Relief, in the paying basis of the budget for 1938.

The District requests the Board of Directors of Eden Publishing House to grant not less than \$10,000.00 from the proceeds of the latter to the Board of Pension and Relief.

*Church Extension*

1. The District recommends that the name "Church Extension Fund" be retained.
2. We trust and hope that the Extension Board can liquidate its holdings, and the Minnesota District pledges its support.

*The Samaritan Hotel, Rochester, Minn.*

The Minnesota District pledges itself to help spread information of the Samaritan Hotel to its constituency, and will urge people to patronize the Hotel when they are patients in Rochester.

**ON REPORT OF EDEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, ELMHURST COLLEGE,  
ELMHURST-EDEN ADVANCE**

1. We agree with the sentiment expressed by Dr. S. D. Press in the introduction to his report that we as Christians should be dead-earnest in developing a God consciousness which will make our corporate Christian life so meaningful as to charge all men with whom we come into contact with a sense of their eternal destiny.
2. We rejoice to learn that all the activities of the institution are thoroughly saturated with the mind and spirit of the Christ.
3. We acknowledge with gratitude the faithful and unselfish service rendered by Dr. Wm. Baur, who after 32 years of teaching at Eden, recently retired, and wish him God's blessing in the eventide of life.
4. We regret the resignation of Prof. H. Lohans as instructor of Homiletics and wish him success in his new field of labor.
5. We heartily approve of the new plan of field work inasmuch as it provides increasing opportunities for the students to gain valuable and varied experience.

*Elmhurst College*

1. We are in sympathy with Dr. T. Lehmann, President of Elmhurst College, in trying to find proper solutions to the problems with which he has to grapple in providing wholesome influences covering the physical, moral and spiritual needs of our students, but would insist that such social features be strictly eliminated which, for reasons of Christian example, have no place in a Christian institution.
2. We regret the marked decrease in students from Evangelical and Reformed homes and appeal to our people to give Elmhurst College prayerful consideration when selecting a school for their sons and daughters.

*Elmhurst-Eden Advance*

1. We urge all who pledged toward this worthy cause to do their utmost in redeeming their pledges.

**ON REPORT OF BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, NORTH STAR E. L. T. S,  
S. S. AND LEAGUE CONVENTION, INDIA READER, AND EVANGELICAL LEAGUE**

*Christian Education*

1. Since the National Young People's Convention is to be in session at Lakeside, Ohio, June 28th to July 1st, the congregations should manifest their interest by encouraging the Young People to attend.

2. In view of the efforts being made by the Synodical administration to balance the budget the Minnesota District requests the Board of Christian Education to accept the budget appropriation with good grace, since a rigid program of economy in regard to salaries and office expense is necessary.

*North Star E. L. T. S.*

In order to preserve the North Star Training School be it resolved that each congregation or parish raise the amount of one tuition fee and send at least one scholar to this school.

*S. S. and League Convention*

We appreciate greatly that the flourishing young congregation at Barnesville, Minn., has extended an invitation for the 1937 S. S. and League Convention, and we urge all congregations to send a good representative delegation to this convention.

*India Reader*

Since the India Reader fills a much needed want in our mission fields of India, and as this book has a far reaching effect on the progress of missions, we urge that in some manner each congregation send a contribution to cover the balance of our quota in publishing this book.

*Brotherhood (Extra)*

For better information about organizations within the congregations, the District requests that in the annual statistics each church organization be listed in a separate column.

Resolved that every congregation make an attempt to interest the men of the church in leadership work in serving the local church as well as the denomination in some form of men's club or men's activity which may ultimately lead to the development of a Churchmen's Brotherhood organization.

**ON REPORT OF HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARDS**

1. Congregations otherwise self-supporting finding themselves temporarily in financial difficulties shall apply for relief not to the Home Mission Board but to the District Council, and the District Council shall be given authority to deal with such a situation.

2. The District fully realizes that the difficulties under which the mission pastors must work in the present financial situation are especially grievous and commends them for their courageous service.

3. The District bids hearty welcome to Rev. Erwin Menger as a new member of the District and wishes him as well as the other mission pastors of the District God-speed in their work.

4. We heartily congratulate the Evangelical congregation of Barnesville, Minn., and its pastor, Rev. Victor Grupe, that they were able to declare themselves self-supporting during the past conference year, and we wish them God's blessing for their future development.

*Foreign Missions*

1. We look upon it as evidence of increasing interest of the mission-

ary task that an increasing number of young men and women volunteer for service in the mission field.

2. We hope that the establishment of a chair of missions as a memorial to Dr. Paul Menzel will result in more applications of our young ministers for the mission field.

3. We are grateful that at least one new worker was sent out to India in the past year, Miss Helen Mueller.

4. Though the deficit for the past year was not as great as in recent years, we are decidedly of the opinion that the only sound financial basis is a balanced budget.

5. We are glad to note that the Christians of India are making progress toward the Church of India becoming more and more independent of the foreign missionaries, and we hope that this development will continue.

6. The mass movement toward religious emancipation, which is certainly gaining ground in India, is one to be watched by the Christian Church with an alert and prayerful spirit.

7. We believe that all activities of our mission workers mentioned in the annual report are good means toward attaining our purposes. We therefore encourage our missionaries to continue these lines of work.

#### **Special Resolutions**

1. The Minnesota District goes on record as being definitely opposed to all means of raising money for church purposes which involve the element of chance. (Unanimously adopted)

2. Hereafter not less than one hour be granted for the Laymen's Session.

3. The Minnesota District authorizes the St. Lucas Hospital of Faribault, Minn. to send a representative into the churches to solicit subscriptions and donations, to sell annuities in order to raise a building fund for the urgently needed addition to the hospital this fall and next year.

4. As a token of appreciation for the work done in preparing our jubilee pamphlet the District authorizes the treasurer to pay to Rev. Riemann, Rev. Bode, and Rev. J. Bunge a gratification of \$5.00 each.

5. The District asks Dr. J. P. Meyer to extend the greetings of the conference to the National Convention of the Evangelical Women's Union now in session in St. Louis, Mo.

6. We extend a rising vote of thanks to Rev. Erwin Koch for his faithful services on the District Home Mission Board.

7. The District Council be given authority to appoint one to replace Mr. Andrew Frank, deceased, to complete his unexpired term on the District Judiciary.

8. That we print all resolutions, election results, and appointments in the combined issue of Minutes of the District Conferences.

REPORT ON ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

*District Council*: President, Rev. O. Muecke (1939), Vice-President, Rev. Wm. J. Riemann (1939), Secretary, Rev. Erwin Bode (1939), Treasurer, Rev. E. J. Stech (1939); Members at large of the District Council, Rev. J. H. Bunge (1943), Mr. Herman Albrecht, R. R. 1, New Ulm, Minnesota (1941), Mr. Wm. Noll, Norwood, Minnesota (1939).

*General Council*: Rev. Geo. Low (1941), Mr. F. P. Warber (1941), Minneapolis.

*Judiciary*: (Until 1939) Pastors—Otto G. A. Eyrich, F. C. Klein, J. M. Munz. Layman—Andrew Frank, Norwood, Minnesota.

*Home Mission Board*: Rev. G. G. Bratzel (1943), Rev. Geo. Low (1941), Rev. J. H. Meier (1943), Mr. Robert Hellberg, R. R. 1, Nerstrand, Minnesota (1939), Mr. Christ Arnold, Watkins, Minn. (1943), Mr. Wm. Harmeyer, Le Sueur, Minnesota (1941).

*All the Following Until 1939*

*Pension Board*: Rev. Ed. Merz, Rev. J. J. Herrlinger, Mr. Edwin Martini, 4232 West 8th Street, Duluth, Minnesota.

*Examination Committee*: Rev. Ervin Koch, Rev. O. Rapp, Rev. E. J. Becker, Mr. W. Koelle, Faribault, Minn., Mr. A. R. Wolff, 3607 Thomas Ave., Minneapolis.

*Foreign Missions*: Rev. John Fontana, Rev. J. Koch, Mr. Conrad Klick, Hebron, North Dakota.

*Brotherhood*: Rev. W. Grabowski, Rev. Fred Iseli, Mr. Elmer Justus, 42 South St. Albans, St. Paul, Minn., Mr. G. Schadewald, Kent Road, Duluth, Minn.

*Women's Union*: Rev. Paul Meyer, Mrs. G. G. Bratzel, Faribault, Mrs. W. Merzdorf, Faribault, Mrs. H. C. Dressel, Le Sueur, Minnesota.

*Historical Commission*: Rev. W. Riemann, Rev. Erwin Bode.

*Evangelization*: Rev. A. Mann, Rev. M. R. Zielinski.

*Commission on Christianity and Social Problems*: Rev. L. Suedmeyer, Rev. Karl Kollath.

*Religious Education*: Rev. C. Boland, Rev. C. Zeyher, Raymond Fruechte, Caledonia, Minn., Carolyn Mueller, 1670 Stanford Ave., St. Paul, Minn.; Evelyn Piepho, Faribault.

*Special Solicitor for India Reader*: Rev. Fred Iseli.

*District Inspector*: Rev. J. Fontana, R. R. 5, Wells, Minn.

*Kingdom Service Committee*: Rev. J. Bunge, Rev. Victor Grupe, Rev. Ervin Koch, Rev. Louis Suedmeyer, Rev. A. Kniker.

Respectfully submitted,

*Erwin H. Bode*, Secretary.

Approved: *Otto A. Muecke*, President and Moderator.

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**48th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**MISSOURI DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
(Evangelical and Reformed Church)  
Held in  
**St. Paul Evangelical Church, Hermann, Mo.**  
Rev. R. H. Kasmann, Minister

**May 11-13, 1937**

**Services**

Conference opened with a Memorial and Communion Service on Tuesday, May 11th, at 1:30 P. M., conducted by the Rev. R. H. Kasmann, pastor loci. The Rev. K. L. Schneider, Bay, Mo. preached the sermon. The Revs. R. G. A. Bareis, Kimmswick, and E. H. Bueneman, St. Louis assisted the Rev. Mr. Kasmann in the administration of the Holy Communion.

At evening worship, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 11th and 12th, Conference had as Guest Preacher the Rev. Andreas Bard, D.D., Pastor of St. Mark's United Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Mo., who delivered two inspiring addresses on "The Triumph of the Church," and "The Constant Presence in Our Midst of the Living Lord," this last one in the German language. The Rev. H. O. Heim, New Haven, acted as liturgist for the first evening service, the Rev. R. G. A. Bareis, Kimmswick, for the second evening service at which the District Officers were publicly installed by the Hon. President of the Synod, Dr. F. C. Klick.

Special music at both services was furnished by the Chorus of St. Paul's Church, Hermann.

Prior to evening worship on Tuesday, a beautiful dramatic worship service entitled "The Chapel Window," was presented by the Pastor, the Rev. Chas. Schwantes, and a number of members of the Student Chapel Congregation at Columbia.

Just before evening worship on Wednesday, the members of Conference enjoyed a Community Sing, under the leadership of Prof. H. A. Pflug.

**Devotions and Meditations**

Wednesday morning: "Jesus and His Personality" by the Rev. F. A. Fischer, Affton.

Thursday morning: "Jesus and His Teachings" by the Rev. G. A. Kanzler, Morrison.

Closing devotions were conducted by the Rev. F. Langhorst, Sap- pington.

### Addresses and Papers

Tuesday afternoon: "The Spirit of the Merger" by the Rev. Paul Press, D.D., Representative of Synod.

Wednesday morning:

(a) *Ministers' Conference*: the Rev. R. E. Weisser, Cape Girardeau, Leader.

"The Unity of the Spirit as a Source of United Action, and as a Disciplinary Force," by the Rev. R. A. Miller, St. Louis.

"If One is Our Master it is Time We Were One in Supporting His Cause," the Rev. A. E. Katterjohn, Wright City.

"Co-operation Among Ministers, and With the Synodical Officers," the Rev. W. B. Weltge, St. Louis.

(b) *Lay Delegates' Conference*: Mr. F. A. Keck, St. Louis, Leader.

"A New Era for Our Church," Mr. Herman Helmich, St. Louis County.

"Giving or Paying—Which? A Plea for Clearer Thinking," Mr. A. H. Steinbeck, Union.

"Cooperation Among Church Members and the Ministers," Mr. F. A. Helmkamp, St. Louis.

Wednesday morning: "Why We Did Not Raise Our Synodical Obliga- tions," the Rev. H. J. Damm, St. Louis.

Wednesday afternoon: "Our Larger Kingdom Service Task—The Neces- sary is the Sacred," the Rev. H. L. Streich, St. Louis.

Thursday morning: A symposium on "Christianity and Social Service," the Revs. S. J. Schmiechen, St. Louis; R. E. Weisser, Cape Girardeau; Arno Franke, St. Louis.

### Action on Constitution of General Synod

On Tuesday afternoon, May 11th, a motion was offered to adopt the Constitution and By-Laws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, as referred to the Districts and Classes by the General Synod of 1936, which motion was adopted by Conference with but one dissenting vote.

Conference then arose as a body to bring the stirring hymn of Dr. Ambrose Schmidt, "Awake, O Church United," after which the Rev. F. E. J. Schenk, Vice-President of District, offered an inspiring prayer for God's guidance and blessing upon our Church.

### Resolutions

#### DISTRICT PRESIDENT

1. Missouri District recognizes with its President the conflict be- tween the "spirit of the world" and the "Spirit of Christ," and agrees

that the only way to triumph over the world is through the re-dedication of souls to Christ, and the infusion of Christian ideals into the life of the Church.

2. Missouri District fully agrees with its President in his opposition to, and condemnation of, the improper money-making methods employed in some of our churches. We deplore that these practices are persisting. We hope that pastors and lay members will exert every influence to curb this growing evil.

3. We, the members of Missouri District, can sanction only direct giving to the Cause of the Church. Every pastor, church, and organization within the Church, should strive to enter fully into the fellowship of direct giving." We believe, however, that this fellowship should be fashioned after the Spirit of Christ. We cannot approve of a publicised list of societies, churches, laymen, and ministers, actually enrolled in a proposed "association," believing that such a select and exclusive group would exercise an influence that is humiliating to others, and contrary to the brotherly spirit of Christian tolerance. We urge that a more intensive educational campaign be conducted, leading toward *direct giving* as the only Christian way of raising the finances for the Church of Christ.

4. Missouri District is gravely concerned over the fact that many congregations fail to appreciate the true worth of pastors, enriched by experiences both practical and spiritual, gained through years of faithful service. We ask for them a greater measure of respect and honour, and a consideration patient and sympathetic, that will not mar their closing years, but rather secure for them the fulfillment of their high calling.

5. We rejoice with our District President in the courageous spirit displayed by so many of our people during trying times, and we are grateful for the new hopefulness which now exists.

6. District highly appreciates the efficient and faithful guidance and administration of District affairs by our President and all other members of the District Council. To the President, Secretary, and Treasurer, we vote the customary gratification.

7. We express our thanks to the personnel of the various District committees for their untiring efforts.

8. We congratulate all brethren ordained within the past biennium; we rejoice with the congregations and pastors who have celebrated anniversaries, and with congregations which have dedicated new edifices; we likewise note with pleasure the special honours conferred on several members of the District.

9. We welcome those brethren who have come from other Districts to serve congregations in our midst, and wish those who have gone into other Districts the Lord's blessing in their fields of labour.

We recommend that the new members be presented to the conference at an opportune time.

10. During the past two years our District has again seen the Hand of God lovingly remove from our midst, faithful brethren, and other members of the Church. To all who sorrow we would speak our prayerful sympathy.

11. Missouri District accepts with thanks the invitation of St. John Evangelical Church, St. Charles, to meet there for the special 1938 District Conference.

12. We offer our sincere thanks to St. Paul Congregation, Hermann, to Rev. and Mrs. Kasmann, to the ladies of the Church, and to all who helped to make the days of the Conference in Hermann, so agreeable, and instruct our District President to give a verbal expression of our gratitude at a suitable time before the close of the Conference.

#### SYNODICAL PRESIDENT

1. We agree with the President, that the time is at hand for the Church to come out boldly with clear and positive statements of Christ's teachings, backed up by a life which puts the truth of the Christian Religion into practice, inasmuch as vicious elements are at work, militating against Christian ideals.

2. Missouri District favours the retention of the present boundary lines of the District, including the congregations in the so-called Ozark Region, and the Evangelical and Reformed Churches in the State of Arkansas.

3. We are grateful for the gradual merging of the Boards of the United Church, performed with happy facility, prayerful deliberation, and Christian considerateness.

4. We sympathize with our sister Churches in the flood-ridden areas, and are happy to note that practically the entire Synod arose to the occasion and extended substantial help so whole-heartedly and so quickly.

5. Missouri District laments the loss by death of many of the servants within the Church, among them some who rendered outstanding and exceptionally generous service to the Larger Kingdom Cause.

6. The Synodical President pays grateful recognition to the encouraging co-operation given him by the Board of Directors, the various Synodical officers and Boards, and, in turn, Missouri District would hasten to assure him of the high appreciation and deep gratitude prompted within us as we consider his able leadership and sincere devotion.

#### SYNODICAL AND DISTRICT FINANCE

1. Missouri District recognizes with gratitude the many special, and, in some instances heroic, efforts that have been put forth, in the endeavour to liquidate the Synodical debt, which has threatened to impede our progress as a denomination. That all of our churches and individual members did not participate in this movement is just cause for regret, if not for apprehension.

2. Missouri District recognizes with gratitude the fine efforts of our pastors and congregations which have resulted in the large increase in

the support of the Synodical Budget in the past fiscal year. District instructs its Kingdom Service Committee to put forth every possible effort to enlist a more generous support of the work of the denomination, especially among the churches which in the past have failed to meet their full share of this responsibility.

3. BE IT RESOLVED that Missouri District approve the plan of the General Council and the Director of the Kingdom Service to liquidate the Synodical debt. We favour the continuation of these efforts until the entire debt is liquidated.

4. BE IT RESOLVED that Missouri District favour the further publication of the "Kingdom Spokesman," and that the most important information therein be made available in the German language, preferably through the pages of the FRIEDENSBOTE.

5. BE IT RESOLVED that Missouri District urge that all pastors and churches within its jurisdiction support the Debt Liquidation Movement whole-heartedly, and that each church follow one of the four plans submitted by the Director of the Kingdom Service, at some definite time most convenient to the church. District instructs its Kingdom Service Committee to negotiate with the various churches, for the purpose of securing the participation of all.

6. BE IT RESOLVED that Missouri District commend the action of the Finance Committee of Synod, for refraining from increasing payments to the Boards in anticipation of increased revenues for 1937. Though we recognize the pressing needs of the various Boards, we urge the Finance Committee to continue this policy until our Synod is free from debt, and the necessary finances for expansion are in hand.

7. BE IT RESOLVED that Missouri District gratefully recognize the work of its Kingdom Service Committee.

8. BE IT RESOLVED that the officers of District, and of the Synod, be requested to study thoroughly the various causes for the failure of our churches to meet their full financial responsibility, and that they find ways and means to remove the causes for such failure.

#### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

##### *Eden Seminary*

1. Missouri District deeply appreciates the conscientious and untiring service of Dr. Wm. Baur as a member of the Faculty of Eden Seminary for a period of thirty-two years, and covets for him the richest rewards of faithfulness, following his recent retirement on account of advancing age.

2. The best wishes of the District also go with the Rev. H. H. Lohans and the Rev. H. P. Schultz into their respective new fields of labour.

3. We commend the splendid "Field Work" program inaugurated by the Seminary for its students, and urge the churches of our denomination to supply the opportunity for parish-work, and to avail themselves of the opportunity offered.

4. We appreciate the efforts made by the Faculty of Eden to offer helpful courses to the men in the Ministry—(and to all others who are interested)—in providing for an annual "Convocation," also a "Lecture Course" on Monday mornings during the school-year.

5. We urge all alumni of Eden Seminary to support the Alumni Association by remitting annual dues of one dollar, and thereby incidentally assuring continued publication of the "Bulletin."

*Elmhurst College*

1. Although we are extremely happy to note that telling efforts are being made to build up the enrollment of Elmhurst College, we sincerely trust that this will never involve any compromise affecting the traditional character of our College as an institution with a distinctively Christian atmosphere.

2. Missouri District urges the members of its congregations to fulfill the obligations pledged by them to the "Elmhurst-Eden Advance."

**CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL ACTION**

The Committee on Christianity and Social Action, serving the Missouri District Conference, Hermann, Mo., May, 1937, recommends to the District the adoption of the following articles as the basis for the work of the District Commission on Christianity and Social Action, as well as for congregations, their schools and organizations, and similar commissions within local congregations:

1. That the entire Church strive for new heights in spiritual insight, determination, and consecration, so that the present crisis in civilization may be met by our Communion with the Spirit, in the full understanding of the will of God.

2. That "The Objectives for Christian Social Action" as printed in the Blue Book, pp. 183-186, be accepted as objectives for Christian Social Action for the entire Church.

3. That the Joint Commission on Christian Social Action continue to issue regularly their Lenten, Christmas, and other similar messages for the use of pastors and congregations.

4. Missouri District approves the merger of the Commission on Social Service and the Commission on Christianity and Social Problems into the Commission on Christian Social Action, and requests that the work of the new Commission thus organized, be supported by a sum of no less than \$5,000.00 per annum from the Contingent Fund of General Synod.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS**

1. We express our appreciation of the Foreign Missions Emphasis material, especially the rotogravure sheet provided by the Board during the Epiphany season, and urge the continuance of this type of visual instruction material.

2. District approves the re-establishment of the Department of Missionary Education, as also the appointment of the Rev. Dr. D. Baker of Baltimore, as Director of this newly-created department.

3. We take grateful cognizance of the assistance rendered by the Medical Society in the expansion of medical work on the Foreign Fields, and likewise, of the whole-hearted cooperation of the Evangelical Women's Union in sponsoring certain important projects.

4. We recognize the wisdom of the creation of the Board of International Missions of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, as provided in the Constitution, and are confident that in this transitional period, this Board will prepare the way for the eventual unification of the entire Foreign Missionary work of the United Church.

*India*

5. We commend the Board of Foreign Missions for the arrangement of the exceedingly worth-while visitation of our Field in India on the part of our Executive Secretary, Dr. F. A. Goetsch, and would suggest a like visitation of our Field in Honduras.

6. District takes note of the large increase in membership in the India Church, and considers the election of Dr. Y. Prakash, native pastor, as President of the India Mission District, as not only a fine gesture on the part of our own missionaries, but also an important step in the encouragement of our Indian Church to assume definite responsibilities.

7. District approves the contemplated union of the India Mission District with the United Church of Northern India, and, in the event of the consummation of such a union, expresses confidence that the Board of Foreign Missions will settle to the benefit of the Church in India as well as the home Church, all questions relating to the transfer of Church property.

8. We are happily confident that the Church in India is being aroused to the importance of a sane evangelism in meeting the problems incident to the "Mass Movements."

9. Missouri District encourages the Board of Foreign Missions to seek at an opportune time an additional ordained man for the Honduras Field, in order that the number of ordained men may be sufficient to occupy each of the Mission Stations by one man at least, even during furlough periods.

10. Missouri District rejoices that a new Church could be organized in Puerto Rico during the past year, and wishes it God's rich blessings for a healthy spiritual growth.

11. Missouri District encourages the careful study of the Report of the Board for Foreign Missions, copies of which can be secured from the St. Louis office, gratis.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PUBLICATION**

1. RESOLVED that we concur in the action of the Board of Publications in closing the branch office of Eden Publishing House at Chicago, Ill.

2. RESOLVED, that we petition the Board of Christian Education, and the Board of Publication, and the Editorial Staff of the MES-

SENGER, to eliminate all local church news of a provincial nature from this official denomination organ, as threats have been made to cancel subscriptions; also, general dissatisfaction is being voiced over these news-items, because they fail to interest our Church at large. (Copies of this Resolution to be sent to all interested boards and editors.)

3. BE IT RESOLVED, that this Conference recommends that the entire Editorial Staff of the MESSENGER be located in St. Louis, Missouri, as a matter of economy and efficiency.

4. RESOLVED, that the Board of Religious Education be petitioned to establish an E. L. T. S. in Missouri, to serve the South Illinois, Missouri, and West Missouri Districts, and, that we voice our confidence in the promotion of the summer program for this year—the National Conference at Lakeside, Ohio, and the Summer Training Schools.

#### CHURCH EXTENSION AND INSURANCE

##### *Church Extension*

1. Missouri District appreciates very highly the many sacrifices made by the members of the Extension Board Fund in administering this very important Fund, especially thanking Mr. E. H. Klick and the Rev. Mr. Westerbeck.

2. Missouri District realizes the importance of the careful supervision of this Fund, and recommends that the Board continue to administer its loans in a business-like manner, employing such "field help" as may be found necessary.

##### *Insurance*

1. Missouri District urges all its pastors and churches to avail themselves of this excellent and economical insurance.

2. We, the Missouri District, most gratefully thank our Agent, Mr. F. W. Helmkamp, for his very splendid work and highly recommend his re-election.

#### PENSION AND RELIEF

1. Missouri District wishes to express its appreciation to the Synodical and District Boards for Pension and Relief, for their efficient services.

2. District requests the Finance Committee of the General Council to grant to the Board for Pensions and Relief an increase of not less than \$10,000.00, if possible, in the paying basis of the budget for 1938.

#### DISTRICT AND SYNODICAL HOME MISSIONS

1. *Grace*: Missouri District takes cognizance of the gratifying progress made by the Grace Evangelical Church of St. Louis, and is glad to see this Church, which has already achieved considerable strength in numbers, receive missionary support in its splendid program toward becoming a self-supporting Church.

2. *Samuel*: Missouri District recognizes the satisfactory progress and the comprehensive program launched by the Rev. Mr. Flucke in

Samuel Church, Clayton, and is confident that, in carrying out these plans, a west-end church serving a larger area will yet be achieved.

3. *Calvary*: Missouri District approves the action of the Home Mission Committee in re-locating the Calvary Evangelical Church from the Orphans' Home Chapel, to St. John Station. We welcome the pastor, the Rev. L. H. Lammert, as one of our mission-workers, and bespeak for him and his congregation a generous and hearty support.

4. The Missouri District recognizes the essentially missionary character of the Christian Gospel, and dedicates itself anew to the task of Christianizing all areas of life, not only within its own borders, but co-operatively with the other Districts, as well as other denominations, in city and country, throughout the land.

5. We welcome the Rev. Dr. D. D. Baker as Director of Missionary Education, and wish him God's blessing. We pledge our support to the Co-operative Council of Missionary Education, as formed by the Boards for Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and Christian Education, and the Men's and Women's organizations.

6. We would encourage the Board for Home Missions in its plans for more effective City Missions in all Evangelical and Reformed centers, but we bid the Central and District Boards, and the District Councils, to give heed to rural sections, and, wherever possible, to encourage and help our many smaller rural churches to maintain a fuller and more effective program.

7. District again commends the mission of our Church in the Ozarks to the prayers and benevolences of its members, and of the entire Church, and instructs the Treasurer of District to pay \$100.00 into the Treasury of the Ozark Auxiliary Committee.

8. Missouri District takes note of the extensive and effective missionary work being done by our churches in St. Louis, City and County in Caroline Mission; in benevolent and eleemosynary institutions and bids them God-speed in the further progress of their blessed undertakings.

### Federated Activities

#### I. RESOLUTIONS ON DISTRICT REPORTS

##### A. WOMEN'S UNION

1. **RESOLVED**: That Missouri District approve the Basis for Union of the Woman's Missionary Society of General Synod of the Reformed Church, and the Evangelical Women's Union of the Evangelical Synod.

2. We commend the progress made by the Evangelical Women's Union in its various departments of work, urging more complete reports from those who have been hesitant to give them in detail.

3. District urges all local Women's Unions to have representation at the District Convention, September 22-23, at Cape Girardeau.

#### A. *CHURCHMEN'S BROTHERHOOD*

1. We express our gratification over the organization of a Brotherhood Federation in Southeast Missouri, and welcome into our group the newly organized Brotherhoods in the District.

2. We thank God for the merger of the Evangelical Brotherhood and the Reformed Churchmen's League, consummated last year at Buffalo, New York, and hope that much constructive work in the Kingdom may result therefrom.

#### II. RESOLUTIONS ON SYNODICAL REPORTS

##### A. *WOMEN'S UNION*

1. Missouri District recommends to its pastors (where not yet done), to urge their Societies to:

- (a) Use the Monthly Program
- (b) Introduce the Thankoffering
- (c) Observe the Day of Prayer for Missions on Ascension Day
- (d) Participate in the Student Aid Fund
- (e) Solicit readers for our Church Papers during Church Paper Week in October
- (f) Introduce recommended Reading and Study Courses

##### B. *CHURCHMEN'S BROTHERHOOD*

1. District urges all men of our Brotherhoods to become actively engaged in assisting in the work of the Church and its Pastor.

2. We recommend that:

- (a) The Federated Activities be represented, now and then, at the discretion of the District Officers, on the District Conference programs
- (b) Men's Congresses be held in all regions having no Brotherhood Federations
- (c) All Men's Organizations be urged to affiliate with the Churchmen's Brotherhood
- (d) A Sunday to be set aside during the year in the local Church, to emphasize Men's Work in the Church
- (e) Churches without a Brotherhood be urged to have a Men's Night, once a month, or quarterly
- (f) The annual appeal in September for a contribution toward the Brotherhood Student Support Fund be heartily recommended to all Men's Organizations, including Men's Bible Classes, in every Church.

3. To the Rev. H. L. Streich, who has been so faithful in the work of the Federated Activities, and who completed, on February 1st, 1937, his 15th year as Executive Secretary of the Women's Union, we extend our heartiest felicitations, promising him our continued support.

### **Special Resolutions**

1. The Missouri District takes cognizance of the excellent work being done among Evangelical students and families at Columbia, Missouri. It commends the ministry of the Chas. Schwantes, present pastor. In token of its concern for the religious nurture of Evangelical and Reformed students from the District at the Colleges and University in Columbia, and in expression of its desire to see the work at the Columbia Chapel continue to thrive and progress, Missouri District appropriates \$400.00 annually for the work, for the next bi-ennium.
2. In the event of vacancies arising through death or resignation in the offices of the District, or membership upon District Committees, the District Council shall fill such vacancies by appointment.
3. To Dr. Andreas Bard, of Kansas City, Missouri, and to every speaker on the program, who, by his presentation made a worthy contribution to the success of the Conference, the Missouri District voices expression of its sincere appreciation.
4. Missouri District instructs its officers to present to the custodian of St. Paul's Church, Hermann, Missouri, the customary honorarium, for his faithful and efficient service.
5. We suggest to the Board of Christian Education, that the Sunday School Lesson Materials and Publications put the principle emphasis on the Word of God, and the Gospel and Person of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Registrations and Equalization**

184 delegates, clerical and lay, were registered for the Conference. After equalization expenses, each delegate received a fund of \$3.75 on a registration-fee of \$10.00.

### **Received into Membership**

The Revs. Melvin Miller and Fritz Chartron were officially received into the membership of Synod, by Dr. F. C. Klick.

Conference also voted to receive Calvary Congregation, St. John Station, into the membership of Synod. The formal service of reception will take place later.

### **1938 Special Conference**

The invitation of St. John's Congregation, St. Charles, to hold the 1938 District Conference there, was received, and accepted.

### **Elections**

The Revs. J. H. Overbeck, St. Louis, President of District, and Alvin Blome, Washington, were elected as Moderator and Vice-Moderator, respectively, of the Conference.

Mr. F. W. Helmkamp was again appointed, by vote of Conference, as District Representative of the Storm and Fire Insurance Association.

*District Officers:* Rev. John H. Overbeck, President (1939); Rev. F. E. J. Schenk, Vice-President (1939); Rev. E. H. Bueneman, Secretary (1939); Mr. Waldemar Pinekert, Treasurer (1939).

*District Council:* Mr. Herman H. Helmich (1943)

*District Representative on General Council:* Mr. John F. Peters (1939)

*District Judiciary:* Rev. R. H. Kasmann (1941); Rev. A. E. Katterjohn (1941); Rev. K. L. Schneider (1941); Rev. J. N. Schuch (1941); Mr. F. W. Helmkamp (1941).

*Board of Examiners:* Rev. A. F. Alberswerth (1943)

*Foreign Mission Committee:* Rev. Karl F. Baur (1943); Rev. Wm. B. Weltge (1943).

*Home Mission Committee:* Rev. P. A. Wobus (1943); Mr. Gus. Wohlschlaeger (1943).

*Pension Committee:* Rev. C. Bohnenkamper (1943); Mr. A. C. Hoefner (1943).

*Religious Education Committee:* Rev. Paul Schmidt (1943); Miss Esther Koch (1943).

Approved: *J. H. OVERBECK*, Moderator.

*E. H. BUENEMAN*, Secretary.

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**45th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**NEBRASKA DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Zion Evangelical Church, Talmage, Nebraska**  
Rev. G. E. Seybold, Pastor  
**April 29 to May 2, 1937**

**Services and Devotions**

The 45th conference of the Nebraska District was opened with a communion service on Thursday evening, April 29. The Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D., Director of our Larger Kingdom Service, delivered an impressive sermon on Mt. 7: 21: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." On Friday evening the Rev. J. J. Braun, Executive Secretary of the Board for Home Missions, spoke on Phil. 2: 5-7: "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." On conference Sunday the annual mission festival of Zion Church was observed. On Sunday morning the Rev. G. Fuchs addressed the Sunday School, and the Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D. preached an inspiring sermon on Mt. 9: 36-38. In the afternoon the Rev. J. J. Braun spoke in German on Rev. 22: 1-2, and the Rev. A. Kroehler in English on 2 Thess. 3: 1. On Sunday evening the Rev. J. J. Braun preached on John 1: 12. Appropriate anthems were rendered by the Choir of Zion Church.

Devotions were conducted by the Pastors E. Tischhauser, E. Gander and C. Jankowsky, and the memorial service on Saturday by the Rev. H. Baumgaertel.

**Moderator**

The Rev. F. L. Rodenbeck was elected Moderator and the Rev. W. Bechtold, Vice-moderator of the conference.

**Attendance, Visitors**

The conference was attended by 28 pastors and 25 delegates from the congregations of the Nebraska District.

The Revs. H. F. W. Jesdinsky, A. L. Schieler and E. Stelzig, and the congregations at Batesland and Nisland, S. D. were excused from attendance and participation in traveling expenses.

The Rev. W. Kieker was excused only from attendance.

Visitors at the conference were: Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D., Director of our Larger Kingdom Service; Rev. J. J. Braun, Executive Secretary of Board for Home Missions; Rev. E. Gander, Dawson, Nebr.; Rev. Haferman and Rev. Fleischman, Talmage, Nebr.; Rev. H. Reifschneider, Eudora, Kans.; Dr. N. Zimmer and Dr. H. Wagner, Hanover, Germany.

#### Conference Expenses

Average traveling expenses for a pastor and delegate.....	\$11.00
Entertainment fee for a pastor and delegate.....	2.00
<hr/>	
Total .....	\$13.00

#### Special Addresses

"The Necessary is the Sacred," Rev. J. P. Meyer.  
"The Church the Institution Peerless," Rev. J. P. Meyer.  
"No Body Fully Redeemed until All are Redeemed," Rev. J. J. Braun.  
"The Cooperative Movement," Rev. Carl Burkle.  
"Deutsches Kulturleben in Amerika," Dr. Norbert Zimmer.

#### Resolutions

Among the resolutions adopted are the following:

##### *Resolutions to General Synod*

1. Whereas the final ratification and putting into effect of the new constitution for the Evangelical and Reformed Church is contingent upon the approval by two-thirds of the districts and classes of the united Church,

Be it therefore resolved by the Nebraska District of the Evangelical Synod of North America to approve of the action taken by the General Synod at Ft. Wayne in 1936, whereby the new constitution was adopted.

2. Whereas the Board of Foreign Missions of the Evangelical Synod of North America seeks permission in behalf of our Church in India to become a part of the "United Church of Northern India",

Be it therefore resolved by the Nebraska District that it will not approve of this transaction except under the provisions that

a. Missionaries of our Church, as well as the India Mission District as such, retain their membership also in the Evangelical Synod of North America, and that

b. Under no circumstances the property of our Church in India be deeded over to the "United Church of Northern India," but that the same be deeded to our India Mission District, and thus revert to the Synod in the event of withdrawal of our India Mission District from the "United Church of Northern India."

##### *Kingdom Service*

We thank the Rev. J. P. Meyer for the efficient and untiring services he has rendered to the church at large as well as to the individual congregations, and we fully approve of carrying on the campaign for the liquidation of the current deficit along the same principles, as in 1936.

#### *Home and Foreign Missions*

The Nebraska District expresses its thanks to the Home and Foreign Mission Boards and to all its workers for their unselfish service, mindful of the sacrifice that many are making in carrying on their work in the interest of the Kingdom cause.

#### **Elections**

1. Officers of the District: President, Rev. W. Bechtold; Vice-president, Rev. E. Tischhauser; Secretary, Rev. O. E. Pinckert; Treasurer, Mr. August Brauer. Members of District Council: Rev. M. Strasburg and Mr. F. W. Brehm.
2. Members of the General Council: Rev. H. Henning, Mr. Chas. R. Wilke.

#### **Appointments by District Council**

1. Board for Home Missions: Pastors: G. Rath (6 years), H. Henning (4 years), G. Bode (2 years). Lay members: Fred Ress (6 years), F. A. Ruenholl (4 years), W. Brehm (2 years).
2. Board for Foreign Missions: Pastors: Theo. Pfundt (6 years), G. E. Seybold (4 years). Lay member: Mr. Kicker (2 years).
3. Board of Pension and Relief: Pastors: M. Strasburg (6 years), G. Duensing (4 years). Lay member: August Brauer (2 years).
4. Board of Religious Education: Pastors: F. L. Rodenbeck (6 years), G. Fuchs (4 years), C. Jankowsky (2 years). Lay members: Mrs. G. Fuchs (6 years), H. Goebel (4 years), W. Kicker (2 years).
5. Examination Board: Pastors: J. Kreuzer (6 years), G. Rath (4 years), J. H. Steger (2 years).
6. District Judiciary: Pastors: H. Baumgaertel (6 years), J. Erbes (4 years), W. Schulz (2 years). Lay members: F. Leuenberger (6 years), D. J. Dohrmann (4 years).
7. District Fire Insurance Inspector: Rev. E. Tischhauser.
8. Committee on Social Problems: Rev. C. Burkle (2 years), Rev. G. Pahl (2 years), Mr. Fred Ress (2 years).
9. Kingdom Service Committee: Rev. E. Tischhauser; Rev. C. Burkle, chairman Northern Regional Conference; Rev. G. E. Seybold, chairman Southern Regional Conference; Rev. J. Erbes, chairman Western Regional Conference.
10. Members of Nebraska Council of Churches: Rev. W. Bechtold, Rev. F. L. Rodenbeck.

#### **Adjournment**

At the closing session of the conference on Saturday evening, May 1, the minutes of Saturday's meetings were adopted, farewell words of encouragement were spoken by the Rev. J. J. Braun and the Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D., and the newly elected officers were installed by the Rev. F. L. Rodenbeck. Adjournment took place at 7:30 P. M. Some of the conference members were obliged to depart for their homes at this time, but the majority remained for Conference Sunday and attended the mission festival of Zion Church.

*O. E. Pinckert, Secretary.*

*F. L. Rodenbeck, Moderator.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**48th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**NEW YORK DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**German Evangelical Church, Elmira, New York**  
Rev. Rudolf Vieweg, Pastor  
**May 11 to 14, 1937**

This conference opened with a communion service beginning at two o'clock on May 11th with the Rev. R. Vieweg, local pastor, conducting the same and assisted by the Reverends F. W. Duhl, Paul Langhorst, L. K. Molter and Carl G. Haass. The conference prayer was given by Rev. R. Vieweg. He also gave a personal word of welcome to the conference.

The business session was called to order by the Rev. Paul Langhorst at 3 o'clock, who declared a quorum present. The roll call showed 32 pastors and 20 lay-delegates present. Report of the credentials committee was presented and adopted. The Rev. Paul Langhorst was elected moderator and the Rev. Theodore Mayer, vice-moderator. The printed program as prepared by the District Council was accepted as the working agenda of the conference.

The report of the District President the Rev. Paul Langhorst was presented by him and referred to the proper committee for consideration, as were the reports of all of the standing committees.

A special resolution committee to report on method of figuring traveling expenses was appointed composed of the Reverends C. Loos, E. H. Hoefer and C. Vogelmann and lay-delegates C. Sickmann, J. Siebel and A. Langendoefer.

After establishing the "Bar of the House" the meeting adjourned at 4:50 P. M.

Report of Special committee on traveling expenses "that only actual cost of traveling expenses be submitted, i. e., if travel by R. R. or Bus actual ticket cost be figured, if by auto only the driver making the actual expenditure, shall submit an expense item. In no case shall this exceed four cents per mile per car. This rule to be enforced for one year. Adopted.

The constitution and by-laws of the Evangelical and Reformed

Church, as adopted by the General Synod, June 16th, 1936 were approved.

A special resolutions committee composed of Rev. H. A. Fenske, Rev. R. Philbrook, A. J. Laux, and Mrs. Lorcher was appointed.

The following resolutions of committee No. 2 on the District's President's report were adopted.

1. The district recognizes with gratitude the able leadership and faithful fulfillment of the duties of office by its President.

2. Unless religion is relevant to the actual conditions of life, we believe with our president, that it is then an "extra" comfort to the mind of man, that can bring no real answer to the problem of living.

3. Only Christian living will reveal to the individual the higher values of life.

4. Salvation of the world will come not only through mass movements, consistent with Christian ethics, but also through consecrated individual living.

5. We encourage the Historical Commission to continue work on a History of the N. Y. District, but order that the printing of such a historical booklet be tabled.

6. The N. Y. District expresses its hearty thanks to Bethlehem Evangelical Church, Buffalo, N. Y., for its contribution to the District and Synod through its cooperation with its pastor in caring for his official duties as President of the District.

7. The usual honorarium shall be granted to the District Officers, the Church Secretary, the Janitor and Organist of the entertaining church.

8. The N. Y. District expresses its heartfelt thanks to the Rev. and Mrs. Rudolf Vieweg and the congregation of the German Evangelical Church of Elmira, N. Y., for its fine hospitality in entertaining the 49th Conference of the N. Y. District.

Pastors: *William Bauer*

*Paul P. Frohne*

Delegate: *Chas. H. Beach*

### **Special Resolution of Committee No. 2, District President's Report**

In view of the fact that out of the 60 congregations served by the pastors of the district, five congregations are not members of the Synod: be it resolved, that our District through its district council extend a personal and cordial invitation to these churches, St. Paul's Wendellville, Friedens, N. Tonawanda, St. John's, Cattaraugus, St. Stephen's, Millersport, St. Peter's, Tonawanda, to affiliate with the Evangelical Synod before the final merger of the Evang. and Ref. church is consummated, that these churches may also share in the blessing of this forward movement in church union.

## Report of the District President

Dear Brethren and Co-Workers:

In the "Fellowship of Prayer for the Lenten Season for 1936, published by the Commission on Evangelism and Devotional Life of the General Council of Congregational and Christian Churches" the chief emphasis is laid upon a new world order, which is to be achieved through faith or religion. Youth in particular is challenged to build a better world, create a more just and equitable circumstance.

Over and against this is "pervading sense of powerlessness in the face of economic circumstance" which is as characteristic in economics and politics as it is in religion.

After the war there was much talk of Youth's sense of revolt. Today it is nearer the mark to speak of Youth's sense of defeat. The blind alley of modern heroics is adequately and eloquently expressed in Stephen Spender's poem:

"What I expected was  
Thunder, fighting,  
Long struggles with men  
And climbing—  
What I had not foreseen  
Was the gradual day  
Weakening the will  
Leaking the brightness away."

Now whether we appeal as a church to youth or age it is clear that certain things must be established and accepted.

First of all, this generation must be persuaded that Christianity is not an *extra* which comforts a certain type of mind, but that in it and in it alone can be found an adequate answer to the problem of living. Many will not turn or return to Religion until they are convinced that Christianity is relevant to life, as they see it and not merely relevant but of actual necessity.

Secondly, this generation must be shown that Christianity succeeds. We, who are Christians, know that only a return to God can save the world. We know that this generation is accepting values, which are less than the highest revealed to man, unless before all else they try to live the Christian life. Mere prosperity is not enough. Material plenty soon brings its own sense of indigestion. Some have discovered this fact as they tried to find an answer to the problems of our present day. They found also that their sense of powerlessness "Leaks the brightness away."

But they do not consider Christianity as an alternative and perhaps a more effective way. There is little hope that the church can capture their imagination, unless it *shows* them that the thing they want viz. a true community, in which there is a right ordering of every activity, physical, mental, cultural, in which "mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other," can only come about

as and when the members of the human race accept that objective fact as presented in the life and personality of Jesus Christ.

Thirdly, the Church must demand of this generation a sense of responsibility. The allurement of the dictator is that he promises his followers a release from this. They accept his shirt, they march in step; the little man is merged in a great people. "One for all, all for one." Once the surrender is made, individual responsibility is commuted for life.

The Christian way is different. The Christian has always, in every action, a personal choice to make; to him the alternatives are: God's will or some lesser will. There is always tension, there will always be frequent failure and even betrayal of Christ. But the Christian retains his personality; he is not a puppet. He has found the only entirely satisfying motive for living, viz. the worship of the God who made him in His own image. He knows the way in which his own life can be worth living both for God and his fellow-man, though that way is never easy.

We are thinking today in terms of mass movements. The public acts, not the individual. We lose sight of the fact that the mass and the public consists of individuals. We lose also the sense of personal responsibility. We yearn for some scheme of things, which may be superimposed on society and create the desired Christian situation. But that is not the order in which these things will come about. It is for individuals here and now at any personal cost, to turn again to God, and do their particular bit of work.

In this respect the Church must set its own house in order, if she aspires to leadership in bringing the world to God. Clergy and laity must understand the true connection of religion with everyday life and be prepared to make that connection a reality in their own lives and thus be best prepared to tell of this religion to a world that is waiting for this gospel.

#### STATUS OF THE DISTRICT

The New York District has an enrollment of 55 pastors, of which 48 are serving congregations, four are retired, one is superintendent of the Church Home at Forks, one is librarian at the Colgate-Rochester Theological Seminary and one is a practicing physician.

Of the sixty congregations, served by the pastors of the district, five are not members of the synod.

#### LETTERS OF TRANSFER

A. Transferred from the New York District: Rev. John Schaefer to the Wisconsin District.

B. Transferred to the New York District: Rev. H. H. Lohans from the Missouri District. Rev. A. Juergens from the Ohio District.

C. To the men who have taken charge of pastorates in the New York District we extend a cordial welcome and wish them God's blessings.

#### ORDINATIONS

1. Ralph Rebman in St. Stephen's Church, Buffalo by Rev. William Schild, June 14, 1936.
2. Gerhard C. Sennewald in Trinity Church, Buffalo by Rev. Max Sennewald, June 21, 1936.

#### INSTALLATIONS

1. Rev. H. H. Lohans in St. Peter's Church, Buffalo by Rev. H. Kraemer, June 14, 1936.
2. Rev. Arthur Juergens in Immanuel Church, East Hamburg, Dec. 6, 1936.

In St. Peter's Church, West Seneca, Dec. 13, 1936 by Rev. A. E. Viehe.

#### ANNIVERSARIES

##### *A. Congregations*

85th Anniversary—St. Paul's, Erie, Pa.  
60th Anniversary—St. Luke's, Buffalo.  
50th Anniversary—Bethlehem, Buffalo.  
40th Anniversary—St. Luke's, Erie, Pa.  
10th Anniversary—Kenmore Evangelical, Kenmore, N. Y.

##### *B. Pastor's*

50th Anniversary of Ordination—A. C. G. Baltzer  
40th Anniversary of Ordination—William Bauer  
25th Anniversary of Pastorate—William Bauer  
25th Anniversary of Ordination—Carl Haass

There may have been others. As a matter of courtesy, these events ought to be reported to the president of the district.

#### IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Edwin Gottlieb, Pastor of St. Peter's, West Seneca and Immanuel, E. Hamburg. Died July 8, 1936.

Rev. Philip Kraus, D.D., Pastor Emeritus of Zion Church, Meadville, Pa. Died March 7, 1937.

and the many unnamed members of our churches, who have shared our labors in the vineyards of the Kingdom.

"There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest."—Hebr. 4: 9-11.

#### THE DISTRICT COURT

"With pleasant monotony I can say what I could state last year and the year before, and before, and before: The District Court has been absolutely inactive and there is nothing to report." *R. Vieweg.*

#### HISTORICAL COMMISSION

"As chairman of the Historical Commission I come to you with a number of questions, respectfully suggesting that they be answered definitely by the District. All have to do with the anticipated publication of a booklet commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the New York District." *R. Vieweg.*

#### REGIONAL CONFERENCES

The Regional Conferences met regularly and in well prepared programs offered much to inspire and enrich the lives of all participants and gave much help to make the congregational life and activity meet the demands of the present day.

#### ELMHURST-EDEN ADVANCE

A report from Dr. Lehmann shows that in the campaign and follow-up a total of \$97,435.00 has been pledged and a total of \$30,768.00 has thus far been collected. He asks for the whole-hearted support of the district in the completion of this task.

#### PENSION BOARD

The conference will have to elect two members of the board, as no appointment had been made to fill the vacancy caused by the removal from the district of Rev. Frederick Krohne.

To our hosts, the good people of the German Evangelical Church of Elmira, their beloved pastor and his esteemed wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Rudolf Vieweg, we are greatly indebted for the generous hospitality, which we are permitted to enjoy during these days of the conference. A cordial vote of thanks and appreciation at an opportune time is in order.

#### IN CONCLUSION

It is not necessary to say much about the meetings attended in the official capacity of District President, the sermons preached and letters written. This is all a part of the duty of your President. There is, however, a *great deal of work* that has been done and if there had been time to give to many details, much more could have been done. As it is, the congregation, whose pastor happens to be the president of the district, is also making a great contribution to the district and synod and some expression of appreciation to such congregations might not be amiss. I am certainly grateful to my congregation for giving me the opportunity to serve as secretary and then as president of the district for the past six years.

I could not end my term of office without expressing to my fellow officers, committees, colleagues and the churches of the district my sincere thanks for their cooperation, faithfulness and forbearance. For mistakes and errors and all other shortcomings I ask your pardon.

May these conference days bring us an awareness of the great enterprise in which we are engaged as servants of the Lord.

May we yield in humble obedience to the guidance of his Spirit.

May we ever "walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Respectfully,

Paul Langhorst.

**Treasurer's Report, May 1, 1936, to April 30, 1937**

1936

RECEIPTS — CHECKING ACCOUNT

May 1—Bank Balance .....		Dist.		
		Enter-	Quota	tainment
St. Andrews, Buffalo .....	\$ 29.38	\$ 5.00		
Bethany, Buffalo .....		3.00		
Bethlehem, Buffalo .....	20.00	5.00		
Christ, Buffalo .....	50.00	5.00		
Grace, Buffalo .....		3.00		
Immanuel, Buffalo .....	29.44	4.00		
St. James, Buffalo .....		5.00		
Kenilworth, Buffalo .....	4.00	1.00		
St. Lukes, Buffalo .....	50.00			
St. Matthews, Buffalo .....	42.50	5.00		
St. Pauls & St. Marks, Buffalo .....		7.50		
St. Peters, Buffalo .....	145.75	5.00		
Southside, Buffalo .....	11.88			
St. Stephens, Buffalo .....	59.00	5.00		
Trinity, Buffalo .....	40.00	8.00		
St. Lukes, Auburn .....		5.00		
Salem, Bennington .....	3.38			
St. Johns, Dunkirk .....		2.00		
St. Johns, Eden .....	7.00			
German Evangelical, Elmira .....	25.00	5.00		
Christ, Erie, Pa. .....	5.00			
St. Lukes, Erie, Pa. .....	13.28	2.00		
St. James, Fairview, Pa. .....	3.50			
Trinity, Gowanda .....	14.73	2.50		
St. James, Hamburg .....	25.00	2.50		
St. Pauls, Hornell .....	26.50	5.00		
Kenmore Evangelical, Kenmore .....		2.00		
St. Peters, Lockport .....	17.25	3.00		
Friedens, N. Tonawanda .....	51.25			
St. Peters, N. Tonawanda .....	5.18	4.00		
Zion, Meadville, Pa. .....	28.63	4.00		
St. Peters, Perkinsville .....	3.00			
St. Pauls, Rochester .....		4.00		
Trinity, Rochester .....	25.00	5.00		
Salem, Rochester .....	257.78			
St. Pauls, Shawnee .....	11.25	5.00		
St. Johns, Sheldon .....	3.25	1.50		
St. Johns, Stevensville, Ont. .....	11.25			
Friedens, Syracuse .....	35.38	5.00		
Salem, Tonawanda .....	51.08	5.00		
St. Pauls, Wayland .....	5.00	5.00		
<b>TOTALS .....</b>	<b>\$1,110.64</b>	<b>\$129.00</b>		

**1936 RECEIPTS (Continued)**

May	6	Total Conference Receipts received from the Conference Secretary .....	\$1,239.64
	"	6—Bank Balance .....	355.25
	"	9—St. Peters, Tonawanda, Dist. Quota 1936-37.....	7.00
	"	14—St. Pauls, Erie, Pa., Dist. Quota 1936-37.....	48.38
	"	14—Balance from traveling expense .....	1.89
	"	14—St. Johns, Dunkirk, traveling expense .....	2.10
	"	14—St. Peters, Westfield, traveling expense .....	2.10
	"	22—St. Pauls, Rochester, Dist. Quota 1936-37.....	35.00
July	2	—Immanuel, Orangeville, Dist. Quota 1936-37.....	5.63
Nov.	12	—St. Pauls & St. Marks, Buffalo, Dist. Quota 1936-37...	72.75
	"	17—Trinity, Rochester, Balance Dist. Quota 1936-37....	26.25
	"	18—Trinity, Rome, Dist. Quota 1936-37 .....	18.13
	"	25—St. Pauls, Rochester, Contingent Fund 1936-37 .....	16.00
Dec.	7	—German Evang., Elmira, Balance Dist. Quota 1936-37	25.00
	"	7—Bethlehem, Buffalo, Balance Dist. Quota 1936-37 ....	34.38
	"	15—St. Pauls, Boston, Dist. Quota 1936-37 .....	5.63
	"	24—Immanuel, Buffalo, Balance Dist. Quota 1936-37 .....	16.56
	"	26—St. Johns, Dunkirk, Dist. Quota 1935-36 .....	47.00
<b>1937</b>			
Jan.	4	—St. Pauls, Wayland, Dist. Quota 1937-38 .....	7.50
"	4	—St. Peters, Perkinsville, Dist. Quota 1937-38 .....	4.50
"	4	—St. Pauls, Wendelville, Dist. Quota 1936-37 .....	28.63
"	11	—Calvary, Buffalo, Part of Dist. Quota 1936-37 .....	10.00
Apr.	30	—St. Andrews, Buffalo, Dist. Quota 1937-38 .....	37.20
			<hr/> \$2,046.52

**1936 DISBURSEMENTS — CHECKING ACCOUNT**

May	9	Rev. Paul Schroeder .....	Order No. 110	\$ 129.00
		To Salem Church, Rochester for 1936 Conference		
		Entertainment		
"	9	Rev. Martin Davis.....	Order No. 111	10.00
"		Expense at 1936 Conference		
"	14	Rev. Paul Langhorst, Honorarium.....	Order No. 112	150.00
"	14	Rev. Robert Keller, Honorarium.....	Order No. 113	50.00
"	14	Rev. Carl Haass, Honorarium.....	Order No. 114	50.00
"	14	Louis Trost, Honorarium.....	Order No. 115	50.00
"	14	Louis Trost, Office Expense.....	Order No. 116	2.44
"	14	The Grotzka Press.....	Order No. 117	38.00
		Conference Printing		
"	14	Rev. Wm. Bauer.....	Order No. 118	3.52
		Office Expense—Pension Board		
"	14	Equalization Com. .....	Order No. 119	66.99
		1936 Traveling Expense (Cash)		
"	14	Rev. Paul Langhorst, Office Expense..	Order No. 120	4.50
"	14	Rev. H. Vieth, Ex. Secretary.....	Order No. 121	300.00
		Deposit for delegates to the General Conference		

May 14—Louis Trost, Treas. ....	Order No. 122	400.00
District Offering to District Contingency Fund		
“ 14—K. Schaeffer, Secretary.....	Order No. 123	30.00
Office & Janitor Expense of 1936 District Conference		
(Cash)		
July 7—Armstrong, Roth, Cady Co.....	Order No. 124	5.00
Renewal of Treasurer's Bonds		
“ 23—Rev. Theodore Mayer.....	Order No. 125	200.00
Dunkirk Family Week		
“ 30—Rev. Carl Haass, Office Expense.....	Order No. 126	1.45
Aug. 8—Peake's Flower Shop.....	Order No. 127	5.00
Wreath—Rev. Gottlieb		
Sep. 5—Miss Irene Bell.....	Order No. 128	50.00
Young People's Convention		
“ 28—Adam Conrad.....	Order No. 129	3.85
Traveling Expense, Home Mission Board Meeting		
“ 28—Rev. B. Tepas.....	Order No. 130	2.38
Special Dunkirk Conference		
“ 28—Rev. J. Paul Goebel.....	Order No. 131	1.00
Special Dunkirk Conference		
Oct. 15—Rev. Hoefer.....	Order No. 132	2.25
District Council Meeting		
“ 15—Fred Boetzel.....	Order No. 133	2.85
District Council Meeting		
“ 15—Rev. Carl Haass.....	Order No. 134	2.25
District Council Meeting		
“ 15—Louis Trost.....	Order No. 135	3.95
District Council Meeting		
“ 15—Rev. Paul Langhorst.....	Order No. 136	5.40
Regional Council Meeting, Syracuse		
“ 15—Mr. Fred Bickson.....	Order No. 137	18.00
Ministers Retreat, Dunkirk		
Oct. 23—Rev. Paul Langhorst.....	Order No. 138	2.20
Kingdom Roll Call Letter		
“ 25—Rev. Carl Haass.....	Order No. 139	3.15

*Postage for 1937 Quotas*

1937		
Jan. 4—Rev. Paul Langhorst, Office Expense..	Order No. 140	4.84
Apr. 6—Rev. Carl Haass.....	Order No. 141	1.55
District Council Meeting		
“ 6—Fred Boetzel.....	Order No. 142	2.90
District Council Meeting		
“ 6—Louis Trost.....	Order No. 143	3.40
District Council Meeting		
“ 6—Rev. Paul Langhorst.....	Order No. 144	4.30
Office Expense—Mimeograph		
“ 6—Louis Trost, Office Expense.....	Order No. 145	3.53

Apr. 6—Rev. Carl Haass, Office Expense.....	Order No. 146	2.65
" 15—Rev. Fred Oberkircher.....	Order No. 147	5.00
Floral Spray—Rev. Kraus		
" 15—Rev. H. Vieth.....	Order No. 148	27.88
General Council Meeting		
" 20—Adam Conrad.....	Order No. 149	2.00
Home Mission Board		
" 20—Rev. B. E. Kurkowski.....	Order No. 150	2.00
Home Mission Board		
" 20—Rev. F. W. Pfitzer.....	Order No. 151	5.00
Home Mission Board		
" 21—Rev. H. Vieth.....	Order No. 152	48.50
Combined District Minutes		
		—————
		\$1,706.73

GENERAL FUND — INTEREST ACCT.

1936	Receipts	
April 30—Cash in Bank .....	.....	\$ 441.92
July 1—Interest .....	.....	2.21
Oct. 1—Interest .....	.....	2.22
1937		
Jan. 1—Interest .....	.....	2.23
Apr. 1—Interest .....	.....	2.24
		—————
April 30—Cash in Bank—Total .....	.....	\$ 450.82

CONTINGENCY FUND

1936	Receipts	
April 30—Cash in Bank .....	.....	\$1,559.41
May 15—10% of Conference Receipts 1935-36.....	.....	400.00
July 1—Interest .....	.....	7.80
Oct. 1—Interest .....	.....	9.83
1937		
Jan. 1—Interest.....	.....	9.88
April 1—Interest .....	.....	9.93
		—————
April 30—Cash in Bank—Total.....	.....	\$1,996.85

RECAPITULATION

Treasurer's Report, May 1, 1936 - April 30, 1937

April 30, 1936—Cash in Bank—Checking Account....	\$ 355.25
" 30, 1937—Receipts, 1936-37—Checking Account	1,691.27

Total Receipts—Checking Account... 2,046.52

April 30, 1937—Total Disbursements—Checking Acct. 1,706.73

Balance—Checking Account ..... 339.79 \$ 339.79

April 30, 1936—Cash in Bank—General Fund.....	441.92
“ 30, 1937—Receipts 1936-37—Int. Gen'l Fd. ....	8.90
<hr/>	
Total Receipts—General Fund .....	450.82
No Disbursements	
April 30, 1937—Cash in Bank—Contingency Fund... 1,559.41	
“ 30, 1937—Receipts 1936-37—Contingency Fund 437.44	
<hr/>	
Total Receipts—Contingency Fund.. 1,996.85	1,996.85
<hr/>	
No Disbursements	
April 30, 1937—TOTAL BANK BALANCE .....	\$2,787.42
April 30, 1937—Loans Outstanding	
Christ Evangelical, Rochester.....\$ 500.00	
Kenmore Evangelical, Kenmore..... 500.00	
Kenilworth Evangelical, Kenilworth—	
Total Loan .....	\$1,000.00
Credit Interest .....	120.00
	<hr/>
880.00	
South Side Evangelical, Buffalo .....	800.00
<hr/>	
TOTAL LOANS .....	\$2,680.00

Respectfully submitted,  
*Louis Trost, Treasurer.*

### Enrollment

#### PASTORS

A. F. Abele, 126 W. 9th St., Erie, Pa.  
 A. C. G. Baltzer, Em., 371 Maplewood Drive, Rochester, N. Y.  
 Conrad Bachmann, Cattaragus, N. Y.  
 William Bauer, 634 Catherine St., Syracuse, N. Y.  
 Herbert Brethauer, 148 Eaton St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 Irving K. Dietsche, 11 Washington St., Attica, N. Y.  
 O. J. Dietsche, 651 Riley St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 F. W. Duhl, Wayland, N. Y.  
 H. A. Fenske, 481 McKinley Pkwy., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 Christian Fetzer, F. R. 1, Attica, N. Y.  
 Paul Frankenfeld, 16 Peoria St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 Paul Frohne, 108 Hewitt Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 J. Paul Goebel, 406 Deer St., Dunkirk, N. Y.  
 Carl G. Haass, 192 Child St., Rochester, N. Y.  
 Herman J. Hahn, 23 Calumet Place, Buffalo, N. Y.  
 Rodney Heckmann, 115 Gold St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 W. Hetzel, 106 Morgan St., Tonawanda, N. Y.  
 Elmer Hoefer, 96 Saranac St., Rochester, N. Y.  
 John S. Huebschmann, 181 Dearborn St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 W. M. Jeschke, Richmond and Utica, Buffalo, N. Y.

A. Juergens, Ebenezer, N. Y.  
R. H. Keller, 591 Oak St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
Karl Kindt, R. R. 1, N. Tonawanda, N. Y.  
Henry A. Kraemer, 64 N. Ogden St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
J. L. Kulbartz, 200 Jewett Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.  
Braynard E. Kurkowski, 53 Lark St., Rochester, N. Y.  
Paul Langhorst, 35 E. Parade Circle, Buffalo, N. Y.  
Henry Leemhuis, 324 W. Embargo St., Rome, N. Y.  
T. Lehmann, 94 Courier Blvd., Kenmore, N. Y.  
H. A. Lohans, 364 E. Genesee St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
R. W. Locher, 79 Elm St., Hornell, N. Y.  
Carl Loos, 1709 Gunnison Drive, Erie, Pa.  
T. Mayer, 174 Schenck St., N. Tonawanda, N. Y.  
L. A. Moessner, 569 Park Ave., Meadville, Pa.  
Leon K. Molter, 66 Locust St., Lockport, N. Y.  
F. W. Muehlinghaus, Em., 535 Leopard St., Dunkirk, N. Y.  
E. T. Mueller, M.D., 1153 Oliver St., N. Tonawanda, N. Y.  
A. J. Nies, 38 Linden Pkwy., Buffalo, N. Y.  
F. D. Oberkircher, 525 W. Tenth St., Erie, Pa.  
Walter Ott, 528 High St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
F. W. Pfitzer, 25 Crossman Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.  
R. A. Philbrook, 23 Seminary Ave., Auburn, N. Y.  
Merl Schiffman, Boston, N. Y.  
Paul M. Schroeder, 230 Franklin St., Rochester, N. Y.  
William Schild, 308 Adam St., Buffalo, N. Y.  
Max Sennewald, Forks, N. Y.  
Bernard Tepas, 1080 Portland Ave., Rochester, N. Y.  
Irving Tepas, 86 Erie Ave., Gowanda, N. Y.  
Theo. Trost, 1100 S. Goodman St., Rochester, N. Y.  
T. Twente, 1206 Oliver St., N. Tonawanda, N. Y.  
A. E. Viehe, 72 Main St., Hamburg, N. Y.  
R. Vieweg, 161 Dewitt Ave., Elmira, N. Y.  
Carl Vogelmann, 25 Chamberlain Drive, Buffalo, N. Y.  
Carl Zimmerman, 204 Cumberland Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.  
A. R. Zink, Em., 17 Minnetonka Drive, Buffalo, N. Y.

#### Conference Committees

1. *Credentials, Absentees, Excuses, Traveling Expense*—Pastors: W. Duhl, I. Tepas, C. Zimmerman. Delegates: Christ, Rochester; St. Paul's, Wendeville; St. Peter's, No. Tonawanda.

2. *District President's Report* (Appointed by the Vice-President)—Pastors: W. Bauer, P. Frohne, M. Sennewald. Delegates: St. John's, Snyder; St. Paul's, Boston; St. Luke's, Auburn.

3. *Auditing Committee: District Treasurer, General Treasurer (9-17), Board of Endowments and Trust Funds (124-129)*—Pastors: Karl Kindt, H. Hahn, C. Fetzer. Delegates: Salem, Rochester (1); Friedens, No. Tonawanda; St. Peter's, Lockport.

4. *Reports of Eden Seminary, Elmhurst College and the Report of the Elmhurst-Eden Advance* (28-45)—Pastors: T. Mayer, E. Hoefer, H. Fenske. Delegates: Salem, Rochester (2); St. Paul-St. Mark, Buffalo (1); St. John, Sheldon; Zion, Meadville.

5. *Commission on Christianity and Social Problems. Evangelism.* (152-155)—Pastors: L. Moessner, H. Brethauer, O. J. Dietsche, C. Bachmann. Delegates: St. Peter's, Buffalo (1); Salem, Buffalo; St. Paul's, Attica; Salem, Bennington.

6. *Report of the President of the Synod* (1-8). *Report of Executive Secretary* (25-27). *Our Larger Kingdom Service* (18-24)—Pastors: Paul Frankenfeld, R. Heckmann, H. Leemhuis. Delegates: Bethany, Buffalo; St. John's, Dunkirk; German Evangelical, Elmira; Salem, Rochester (3).

7. *Mission Boards*—A. Home Missions and Extension Fund Board (49-63)—Pastors: P. Schroeder, I. K. Dietsche, C. Vogelmann. Delegates: Bethlehem, Buffalo; St. Paul-St. Mark, Buffalo (2); Christ, Erie; St. Peter's, West Seneca. B. Foreign Missions (64-96)—Pastors: J. Huebschmann, M. Schiffman, W. Ott. Delegates: Trinity, Buffalo; Pilgrim, Buffalo; Trinity, Rochester; St. Luke's, Erie.

8. *Board of Religious Education and Board of Directors of the Dunkirk Conference Grounds* (108-118)—Pastors: H. Lohans, T. Trost, R. Locher, W. Jeschke. Delegates: Calvary, Buffalo; Christ, Buffalo; St. Paul, Rochester; St. Peter's, Westfield; St. Paul's, Wyland.

9. *Federations—Brotherhood, Women's Union* (130-148)—Pastors: T. Lehmann, E. T. Mueller, J. Kulbartz, T. Twente. Delegates: Salem, Tonawanda; Salem, Rochester (4); St. Matthew, Buffalo; Friedens, Syracuse.

10. *Report of the Federation of Evangelical Charities* (149-151). *Report of the Historical Commission* (156). *Report of the Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Association* (157-159)—Pastors: C. Loos, B. Tepas, W. Schild, H. Kraemer. Delegates: Immanuel, Buffalo; Grace, Buffalo; St. Peter's, North Tonawanda; St. Peter's, Perkinsville, N. Y.

11. *Report of the Board of Publications* (99-107). *Report of the Board of Pensions and Relief* (119-121)—Pastors: J. P. Goebel, W. Hetzel, A. C. Baltzer. Delegates: St. John's, Buffalo; St. Luke's, Buffalo; St. James, Hamburg; St. Paul's, Erie.

12. *Election*—A. Nominations—Pastors: A. Viehe, A. Abele, A. J. Nies. Delegates: St. Stephen's, Buffalo; St. James, Buffalo; Trinity, Rome; Trinity, Gowanda. B. Tellers—Pastors: F. Pfitzer, B. Kurkowski, H. Juergens. Delegates: South Side, Buffalo; St. Paul's, Hornell; St. Peter's, Lockport; St. Paul's, Shawnee.

13. *Press or Service Committee*—Pastors: L. K. Molter, H. Juergens, R. Philbrook, G. Wich. Delegates: Frieden's, North Tonawanda; Immanuel, Orangeville; St. Andrew's, Buffalo; Kenmore, Buffalo.

14. *Introduction of Visitors*—Pastors: R. Vieweg, R. Keller, C. Haass. Delegates: of German Evangelical Church of Elmira.

COMMITTEE #3

After auditing the records of the District Treasurer, we find them correct in every detail and recommend a vote of appreciation be given Mr. Louis Trost for his painstaking performance of his duties as treasurer.

We are gratified to find the General Treasurer's report showing at least a slight increase of receipts and a trend toward a balanced budget. However, the fact dare not be overlooked that the financial status of the Synod is still most precarious, challenging our deepest concern and our cooperative endeavor to meet this critical situation.

We felicitate the Board of Endowments and Trust Funds on the progress indicated in their report. However, we deeply regret that they felt recourse had to be taken at times to mortgage foreclosure, resulting in the loss of property for individuals. Application of ruthless business tactics in church matters may reflect disastrously on the ethical integrity of religious practice.

*Karl M. Kindt, Chairman*

*Herman J. Hahn, Secretary*

*Christian E. Fetzer*

*Fred Baetzel*

COMMITTEE #4 ON EDEN SEMINARY, ELMHURST COLLEGE,  
ELMHURST-EDEN ADVANCE

Your undersigned Committee beg to submit the following Resolutions:

*Eden Theological Seminary*

1. Regarding "The Religious Life of the Seminary" we rejoice with the reporter, that "The life of our school is channeled into living together, studying together, eating and playing together, serving together, and worshipping together" and that it can truthfully be said, that "We seek to have all these activities, thoroughly saturated with the mind and the spirit of the Christ."

Be it resolved—that our district especially commend the Eden Seminary student body upon its practical demonstration of Christian helpfulness toward other racial groups in providing the necessary fund for the theological training of a negro student at our Eden Seminary.

2. The retirement of Prof. Dr. William Baur and of Prof. Herman H. Lohans is of especial interest to our New York District in as much as both these reverend gentlemen came from our District.

Be it therefore resolved to take due recognition of their faithful and valuable services.

3. We also extend our most cordial welcome to the Rev. Herman H. Lohans upon his return to our N. Y. District and wish him God's richest blessing in his pastorate in St. Peter's Church of Buffalo, after his faithful service of 8 years as Professor of Homiletics in Eden Seminary.

4. This District Conference also congratulates Eden Seminary as

well as the following recipients on the conferring of the honorary degrees of Doctors of Divinity, viz,

The Rev. Carl F. Sturm of Marthasville, Missouri.

The Rev. Otto Dibelius of Berlin, Germany.

The Rev. Gerhard Jacobi of Berlin, Germany.

The Rev. Martin Niemoeller, Berlin, Germany.

and especially the latter three for their heroic stand in keeping faith at this time of religious strife.

5 Recognizing that the Field Work is especially significant, in that it makes possible acquaintance with many phases of religious expression outside the classroom, we heartily endorse its continuation and enlargement, so that future ministers may be more adequately trained.

6. We take special pleasure in welcoming as a guest at our conference Mr. Paul Streich of Eden Seminary who is giving a year of service to Salem Church of Rochester, N. Y., before completing his senior work at Eden Seminary.

7. We are pleased that the students are being made better acquainted with our denominational program, particularly as it affects ministerial obligations, creating a greater loyalty to such enterprises as the Pension Fund and Synodical Budget.

*Elmhurst College*

8. We recognize with great satisfaction the outstanding progress made by Elmhurst College both in regard to increase in enrollment and in the high percentage of enrolled students retained.

*Elmhurst-Eden Advance*

9. In view of the fact that only \$30,000 of the \$97,000 pledged by the N. Y. D. has been paid to date, we call upon all clergy and delegates to encourage the meeting of these pledges.

10. We deplore with Dr. Lehmann the tremendous collection expenses, and feel that any reasonable action to reduce these would meet with approval from many sources, while yet keeping in view a successful completion of the Elmhurst-Eden Advance.

COMMITTEE No. 4

*Theodore Mayer, Chairman*

*Carl F. Siekmann, Secretary*

*Elmer Hoefer*

*H. Fenske*

*Edw. J. Werle*

COMMITTEE #5

*Social Problems*

In this day of extreme social unrest the New York District expresses itself as:

Opposing dictatorial Fascism and atheistic Communism, and that we recognize the need for increasing measures of political and industrial democracy, speaking and acting for the underprivileged, and supporting Christian social legislation.

The District pledges itself anew to teach and preach the application of the ethics of Jesus Christ more emphatically, since Christ alone is the Saviour of the world.

*On Evangelism*

To extend the blessings of the Preaching Mission, we urge that a week of Religious meetings be held in the local churches.

COMMITTEE No. 5

*Herbert A. Brethauer*  
*O. J. Dietsche*  
*L. R. Moessner*  
*Henry Eisenberger*

COMMITTEE #10

1. *Report of the Federation of Evangelical Charities*, Pages 149 to 151

1. We are grateful to our kind heavenly Father for His guidance and providential care during the past difficult years of depression.

2. We encourage all institutions of charity, supported by the Synod, to affiliate with the "Federation of Evangelical Charities."

3. We remind our churches and individual members of the apostolic recommendation "Let us not be weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

4. The New York District supports the suggestions of the "Federation of Evangelical Charities" that the district conferences set aside a specified time for the presentation of the work of our benevolent institutions, and that the General Council designate a special Sunday for the same purpose to be observed in the churches.

2. *Report of the Historical Commission*, Page 156

1. The New York District appreciates the work of the "Historical Commission," the value of which will increase as the years go by.

2. We look forward in joyous anticipation to the celebration of the centennial of the founding of the Evangelical Synod in 1940.

3. *Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Association*, Page 157

The New York District renews its recommendations of former years to take advantage of the protection offered by this organization which has stood the rigid test of time.

*Harriet Allen*  
*John Seibel*  
*Carl Loos*

COMMITTEE #7B — FOREIGN MISSIONS

The Foreign Mission Board, realizing the importance of the foreign missionary enterprise, looks forward to the time when the Church will back up its interest to the great commission of our Master, therefore the District urges a return to such a helpful and fruit-bearing practice of old, namely, the mission festival observance, chiefly for educational purposes, including the medical service of our foreign missions.

We recommend that pastors through the agency of missionary liter-

ature become more conversant with foreign mission enterprises and impart such knowledge to their confirmation and Sunday School classes.

We rejoice that the Board has received a goodly number of applicants from young women who desire to go into mission work as evangelists and nurses, and urge the churches where they hold membership to do all in their power to encourage and assist them.

We invoke the Lord's blessings upon Miss Helen Mueller, recently commissioned for service in India, for her zeal in the Kingdom work abroad.

<i>J. Huebschmann</i> , Chairman	<i>Dr. DeTurck</i>
<i>M. Schiffman</i>	<i>A. Conrad</i>
<i>W. Ott</i>	<i>C. Scheibel</i>

Whereas: we, as followers of the Christ, unite with Him in the prayer that they may all be one, and,

Whereas: a practical expression has been given to the fulfillment of that prayer in the action of the Indian Mission District, and,

Whereas: this action has already received the approval of the Foreign Mission Board and the Board of Directors of the Evangelical Synod,

Be it resolved that we, as members of the New York District vote our hearty approval of their action, and wish the India Mission District God's richest blessing upon its union with the United Church of Northern India, moreover, we assure the India Mission District of our continued loyalty and support.

#### COMMITTEE #7A — HOME MISSIONS

1. The N. Y. District herewith expresses its sense of loss sustained by the Synod through the passing of the Rev. G. A. Schmidt, the esteemed chairman of the Board of Home Missions.

2. The N. Y. District recommends to the Board of Home Missions that the statistical report of Home Missions be presented on a comparative basis with one or more previous years, in order to indicate the trends of our missionary activities.

3. The N. Y. District approves of the continuation, and if possible, the expansion of the Home Mission Projects in the Ozarks, Biloxi, and Madeline Island.

4. We approve the formation of a co-operative council for missionary education, and the appointment of the Rev. D. D. Baker as its full time director.

5. We commend for wide distribution among the Pastors and Congregations of our District, the forthcoming book, "Beside All Waters," by Dr. Schaeffer.

6. The N. Y. District is deeply grateful to the women's Union for its faithful support of the Home Mission Enterprise by means of the Thank-Offering.

7. The N. Y. District concurs in the suggestion of the Board of Home Missions that our City Work relate itself more definitely to the care

of those for whom the strain of modern life has become too difficult; and to the ministry of the under privileged groups in the community.

8. The N. Y. District believes that greater supervision and control of Home Mission projects within each district should be vested in the District Home Mission Boards.

9. The N. Y. District appreciates the economical administration of the Church Extension Board; and suggests that for the present it avail itself of the services of the Executive Secretary of the Board for Home Missions in adjusting special problems.

10. The New York District is proud of its faithful and self-sacrificing missionaries: Rev. Carl Zimmerman, T. T. Lehman, O. J. Dietsche and Brainard Kurkowski. We entertain the fervent hope that the salary schedules may be restored to their normal level within the very near future.

11. The N. Y. District recognizes the splendid work which has been done by the Evangelical Union of Buffalo and vicinity in promoting the mission work within its area during the past fifteen years; and authorizes the District President to appoint the president of the Evang. Union as an ex-officio member of the District Home Mission Board.

*Paul Schroeder, Chairman*

*Irving Dietsche*

*Carl Vogelmann*

*Carl Siekmann*

*Arthur Hock*

#### COMMITTEE #9 — FEDERATIONS

##### *A. Brotherhood*

1. We heartily concur with the Board of Directors of the Churchmen's Brotherhood in their emphasis upon the importance of enlisting the interest of the men in church work, and in regarding the Churchmen's Brotherhood as "an effective technique for challenging and enlisting churchmen," especially when the program emphasis is placed on the Spiritual. As a commendable example we note the report of the president of the Buffalo Federation, which was sent as a report to the District President.

2. We therefore urge the pastors and congregations of the New York District to give serious consideration to the recommendations of the Board of the Churchmen Brotherhood, as also requested by the District Board in their report, namely,—

- (1) That Brotherhood Work be given a place on district conference program.
- (2) That men's Congresses be held in all Regions having no Brotherhood Federation.
- (3) That all *men's organizations* be urged to affiliate with the Churchmen's Brotherhood.
- (4) That a Sunday be set aside during the year to emphasize men's work in the Church.

(5) That churches without a Brotherhood be urged to have Men's Night once a month or quarterly.

(6) That the annual appeal in September for a contribution toward the Brotherhood Student Support Fund be heartily recommended to ALL men's organizations, including men's Bible classes, in every church.

3. We further recommend that wherever the Annual Projects as listed in their report, namely, Family Devotions, Lay-Evangelism, Day of Prayer for Missions on Ascension Day, Undershepherd Service, Men's Retreats, Brotherhood Reading Course, Father and Son Banquet, Brotherhood Student Support Fund, and Stewardship Essay and Poster Contest, fail to make sufficient appeal to the men of a local congregation, the possibility of arousing their interest in a local and more concrete project, such as boy's work in its various phases and organizations of automobile squads to bring the old and "shut ins" to church worship be considered.

4. We wish to call special attention to the provision made by the Buffalo Convention for a *Membership-at-large* in the Churchmen's Brotherhood in churches without an organized Brotherhood chapter.

5. We express our deep appreciation for the faithful and patient efforts which the Executive Secretary, Rev. H. Streich has put forth during his long and devoted service in this most difficult phase of church work.

6. We particularly commend the Churchmen's Brotherhood for their support of the National Preaching Mission, Laymen's Missionary Movement and their participation in the United Christian Adult Movement.

7. We wish to call the attention of Pastors and lay leaders of our Churches to the assistance offered by the officers of N. Y. District Federation to assist in any way possible, either to revive their Brotherhood work or to begin a new organization.

Respectfully submitted,

*Th. H. Twente*

*H. P. Naumann*

*Dr. E. T. Mueller*

*Wm. Geo. Freeman*

*Report of the Board of Women's Union*  
1. We rejoice in the splendid growth of the work of the National Evangelical Women's Union. During the past fifteen years, both as to its spiritual significance as well as numerical growth. This has become one of the most encouraging phases of our church work, and we confidently look forward to even greater progress after the merger with the Reformed Women's Missionary Society has been effected.

2. We heartily commend the Women's Union for their interest and participation in interdenominational as well as denominational activities, such as the United Christian Adult Movement, Council of Women for Home Missions, Foreign Missions Conference, and Conference on the Cause and Cure of War.

3. We assure the Evangelical Women's Union of our sincere good wishes and prayers for the success of their Sixth National Convention, which is to be held in St. Louis, May 18-21.

4. We recognize the valuable services of the Executive Secretary, Rev. H. Streich, and heartily congratulate him on his fifteen years of faithful service.

5. We also take this opportunity to congratulate the Women's Union of the New York District upon its 20th Anniversary and express our hearty appreciation of the financial assistance given to the Dunkirk projects. We urge that the pastors of the district take advantage of the kind offer, of the officers of the District Women's Union to help introduce the Women's Union Program in their local churches.

Respectfully submitted,

*Th. H. Twente*

*Wm. Geo. Freeman*

*H. P. Naumann*

*Dr. E. T. Mueller*

**COMMITTEE #6 — REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SYNOD — SECTION A**

1. We greet with pleasure the plan to continue the effort of the Preaching Mission during the year, placing the emphasis during the coming months upon meetings for youth, and striving to reach those who have become estranged from the church.

2. We are deeply conscious of the fact that men and women are hungering for the bread of life, but we respectfully submit that when Jesus said: "Give ye them to eat," he was referring to food for the body. The Church should share also this deep concern of our Master.

3. We are in hearty accord with the President's statement that in the turmoil of the present time, it becomes increasingly imperative that the Church should present a militant interpretation of the message of Jesus as applicable to all phases of life.

4. We call upon the Churches of our District to make a sincere effort to meet promptly their apportionment to the Contingent Fund, out of which the administrative expenses of the United Church are met.

5. We express our gratification at the hearty response to the appeal for Flood Relief. We suggest to our Administrative Board that it take the initiative toward a study of Church Life in the stricken area, with a view to determining the religious needs in order to rebuild Church Life on a Community rather than a sectarian basis.

**COMMITTEE #8**

Your Committee on the Board of Religious Education and the Board of Directors of the Dunkirk Conference Grounds begs to submit the following resolutions for action by the District Conference.

*Board of Religious Education*

1. We are pleased that practical application of the Plan of Union has become an accomplished fact in the merging of the Boards of Re-

ligious Education, Christian Education, and Young People's Work, and the formation of the Churchmen's Brotherhood.

2. We feel reasonably sure that the three-year cycle of Adult Study will fill a long-felt need in the program of Christian education in our church and we recommend its adoption by our Churches for a trial period with the beginning of the current school year in October.

3. We appreciate the value of our youth and Church School periodicals, *The Tidings*, *Light Bearer*, *Boys' and Girls' Companions*, et cetera, and again recommend a more extended use of these in all our churches. The contents of these papers indicate that editors as well as publishers are keenly aware of the legitimate moral and spiritual needs of our youth. We are confident that they will continue in their intelligent and progressive efforts in this ministry. The general programs for special occasions have been found very stimulating and helpful.

4. Considering the size of our constituency of nearly one million people, we recognize the desirability of expansion in field work, and agree as to the urgent need of a specialist in the work of the children's division. The teaching ministry of the church must be intensified and deepened if we are to do justice to the opportunities and the needs of the field.

5. The First National Conference on Christian Education in the united church at Lakeside, Ohio, is an event which should arouse a deep felt emotional response throughout the denomination. We urge a wide-spread and enthusiastic participation and a prayerful interest in this Conference.

6. The continuous growth and efficiency of our summer schools is a distinct credit to the challenging promotion of these schools by the Board of Christian Education and the fine cooperation and leadership it has given. The Lake Erie E. L. T. S. with its record attendance of last year claims and merits the particular interest of the New York District.

7. We again call attention to the specialized services of the Board of Christian Education through its lending library of high grade books on Christian education and youth leadership; the Bailey Slide Collection of Religious Art; religious pictures for use on special occasions; slides and films for promotional purposes; pamphlets on particular phases of religious education and "Special-Day" literature.

8. We take favorable cognizance of the importance of the cooperative Council of Missionary Education comprising representatives from the Boards of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Christian Education, The Women's Union, the Woman's Missionary Society and the Churchmen's Brotherhood. Effective organization, efficient administration, and impartial cooperation which offer unlimited opportunities for such promotional work which will not only achieve more intelligent interest and liberal support in the missionary education and evangelistic program of our church, but also in tapping financial resources that will help to liberate all departments of our church from the handicaps

which hinder in such a marked degree the adoption of a program of intensification and expansion along all lines of kingdom work. We cannot conceive that the apparent discrimination against the Board of Christian Education should originate in ill-will or lack of appreciation of the importance of its work on the part of the General Council or the Board of Directors.

*Dunkirk Conference Grounds*

1. We note with pleasure that the Pastor's Retreat which was so successful last year, will again be held this summer.

2. Since a new Administration building is a genuine need at the Dunkirk Conference grounds we deplore the postponement of its erection and hope that ways and means may soon be found to insure its construction.

3. We call to the attention of the conference the following recommendations:

1) That a reasonable number of members of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE be chosen from the members of the Board of Directors living within a reasonable distance from Dunkirk and irrespective of District connection.

2) That the chairman of the Board of Directors, together with two or more members of the Executive Committee, all of whom should live in the neighborhood of Dunkirk—supervise the administration of the grounds through personal and regular contact, also making monthly reports to the members of the Board of Directors.

3) That the so-called "business committee" be discontinued.

We further recommend that in the proposed plan of administration of property after the "Merger" becomes effective,

a) The same principles be observed in the forming of the executive committee, as outlined above;

b) That in the interest of fairness and cooperation representatives of the West N. Y. Classis also be invited into a conference for the consideration of plans of administration of the Dunkirk property.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE

*Rev. P. Langhorst F. Bickson*

*Rev. R. Heckman Rev. P. Goebel*

*Mrs. T. Mayer Mr. J. Seibel*

*Rev. B. Tepas Rev. C. Haass*

*Theo. Mayer, Chairman*

*Committee in the Reorganization of*

*The Dunkirk Administration Board*

*Appointed at Salem Church, 1935*

*H. H. Lohans*

*Rudolf Locher*

*Theo. Louis Trost*

*Herman Pomerening*

*Leo W. Blawfuss*

B COMMITTEE #6—REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF THE SYNOD, REPORT OF  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, OUR LARGER KINGDOM SERVICE

*Report of the Executive Secretary*

1. The New York District expresses its hearty appreciation of the labors of the Executive Secretary, H. P. Vieth, and extends to him good wishes, for his ministry in his new field of labor.
2. In order that statistics may present a true picture of the state of the church we urge upon our members that they render complete and accurate reports, and that they should make every effort to send them to the Synodical Office within the required time.

*Our Larger Kingdom Service*

1. The District expresses grateful appreciation of the vigorous and capable prosecution for debt liquidation on the part of the Director of "Our Larger Kingdom Service."\*
2. While we admit the justice of the rule, "The strong should bear the burdens of the weak," we hold that all churches must make a sincere effort to do what is in their power if the liquidation of the debt is to be effected upon an equitable basis.
3. The District endorses the resolution that the 1937 plan and program for synodical debt liquidation be submitted generally, first at the district conferences, and then locally in the congregations, by any and all Christian means available, and that the promotion and execution of this plan and program shall be the direct obligation of all congregations, constituting the body of the Synod and served by the ministry of the synod.
4. In view of the newly acquired Synodical budget deficit of over \$10,000.00 for the year 1936, and in order to avoid in future additional deficits in the annual working budget, the New York District respectfully repeats its plea of 1936, and requests the General Council to adopt as a basis of determining the working budget of the denominational boards, the actual budget receipts from the churches during the preceding year, instead of considering the "askings" budget, or the "hoped for receipts of the future."

Respectfully submitted,

*Paul Frankenfeld*  
*Ralph A. Philbrook*  
*A. G. Reinhardt*  
*Fred Baetzel*  
*Mrs. R. Nax*

COMMITTEE #11—BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS, BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RELIEF

1. We believe that the closing of the Chicago Branch of the Eden Publishing House was a wise move from a business stand-point and trust that as a result in the future there will be no deficit.
2. In view of the fact that the Messenger has worked under a

\* The District was very happy to have the Rev. J. P. Meyer in its meetings.

deficit of \$3,641.71 from Feb. 1, 1936 to June 30, 1936 we encourage the boards responsible for its publication to hasten the unification of the editorial offices at Philadelphia and St. Louis so as to reduce the overhead and put said publication on a sound business basis.

3. We recommend that each church have an annual campaign to promote the sale of the Messenger subscriptions.

4. We suggest that as a means of introducing the paper to our people single copies be offered for sale regularly at church and the meetings of various organizations.

*Pension and Relief*

1. We wish to thank the Women's Union for its contribution of one-third of its Thank Offering to the Pension Fund, and hope that other organizations may find it possible to give similar assistance.

2. This District Conference wishes to commend Mrs. John W. Wagner of Kansas City, Missouri and Rev. and Mrs. E. U. Hafermann for their gifts of cottages at the Blue Springs Pastors' Home.

3. We believe that there is no legitimate reason, financial or otherwise, why any pastor who is eligible should not be a member of the Fund and urge all such pastors of our district who are not members, to join at once.

4. In view of the fact that in 1936 \$8,000 of the Fund's reserve money needed to be used in order to pay pensions, and a like amount will be required in 1937, the District is of the opinion that the future of the Fund should not be thus jeopardized, and urges the General Council to increase the Fund's apportionment of the budget for 1938, if at all possible.

5. We are gravely concerned over the fact that for the past four years Eden Publishing House has not paid its obligations of \$10,000.00 per year to the Pension Fund and call upon the synodical officers to use their influence in the interest of the Fund.

6. We urge all our pastors and congregations to patronize their own Publishing House so as to increase its profits and thereby help to enlarge the Pension Fund.

7. Inasmuch as the Fund shares in the synodical budget, we urge all congregations of the district to put forth every effort to raise their full quotas.

*J. Paul Goebel, Chairman*

*Lillian Loescher, Secretary*

*Adolf Langendorfer*

*Walter Hetzel*

**SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE #1**

*In Re: Monthly Payments toward the Synodical Budget*

In order to eliminate on the part of the Synodical treasury the necessity of making repeated loans in the course of the year toward the working budget of the synodical boards, as also to save the needless interest on such loans, and in order to give the GENERAL COUN-

CIL (which determines the working budgets) a more intelligible and more reasonable gauge for anticipated budgets receipts for the current year,

BE IT RESOLVED

1. That our District Council inaugurate a campaign of education among the churches of the District for the purpose of enlisting 100% of its churches for the plan of remitting each month their benevolences to the general treasurer of the Synod;

2. That we instruct our District council to inaugurate at this conference and promote throughout the year a

**"MONTHLY PAYMENT HONOR ROLL"**

of all such churches who make it a practice or who will adopt the practice in the course of the year monthly to forward their benevolence moneys;

3. That we recommend to the SYNODICAL KINGDOM SERVICE department of our synod the immediate adoption of a similar educational campaign for the creation and promotion for such an "Honor Roll" for each District and for the Synod at large.

4. In the redistribution of churches in the new set-up of the merger, we of the Erie Group wish to express ourselves to the end that it is our unanimous vote that we be included in the present N. Y. District set-up.

5. Whereas the Congregation of St. Matthews' Church of Buffalo, N. Y., extends the invitation of the next Conference to meet at its church, be it resolved that we accept this invitation.

6. That the President and Secretary of the District edit the minutes of this conference.

7. We recommend that the District Council be empowered to transact any unfinished business that may arise in the interim before the next District Conference.

*Lillian Loescher*

*Ralph Philbrook*

*August Laux*

*Herman Fenske*

*Resolved* by the Laymen of N. Y. District in session May 12th and 13th that:

1. The New York District instructs the District Council to remind the delinquent churches of their constitutional obligations. If no results are obtained the matter should be referred to the District Judiciary.

2. The General Council is urged to live within its receipts for the current year.

3. Hearty support of the resolution to place the President of the Evangelical Union of Buffalo on the District Home Mission Board was manifested.

4. It was urged that steps be taken to secure the attendance of all Churches in the district conferences.

5. For the benefit of our churches and the increasing of effective operation of our churches it was suggested that these recommendations would be most helpful.

- a) Exchange of pulpits where agreeable to local churches.
- b) Presentation of sermons with the more vivid application of Christ's principles to every day life and modern problem.
- c) Attention is called to the effective progress made in many communities through cooperative denominational effort to bring religious education to school children for one hour each week through permission of School Board.
- d) It is recommended that all past council members of respective churches be organized into a permanent body with the idea of conserving the influence and experience of these members.
- e) It is recommended that church council meet jointly wherever possible with other councils for the exchange of ideas helpful to each other.
- f) It was recommended that Brotherhood work could be enhanced only through deepening of the religious phases of the program and that only where the men were given tasks to do were Brotherhoods most effective in their true purpose. Suggestions of tasks were as follows: 1) Ushering; 2) auto squads for calling on "shut-ins" and making church attendance possible to them; 3) using the Brotherhood program of the Synod.
- g) The need was felt for the synodical development of a survey agency to furnish material for a careful analysis of a church's problems and position in relation to the community it serves. In this way recommendations could be made to weak churches whereby their work of the Kingdom might be done more effectively. It was felt helpful to get this from sources outside the local church.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Baetz

H. P. Naumann, Secretary

*In Re: Gambling and Money-Raising Ways and Means*

Whereas a special wave of interest in and promotion of all kinds of gambling practices is sweeping our country, and whereas churches are often tempted to adapt the same and similar methods in the interest of raising church funds, not to speak of the confusion in the minds of church members in regard to the Christian principles involved and the uncertain note of leadership so often given

*Be it resolved:*

1. That we *emphatically condemn* as un-Christian and un-American the large variety of recent gambling practices such as Bank Nights, Bingo, Ton-o-win, and similar games of chance, and that we arouse our Christian citizenship for a valiant fight against such further introduction and promotion.

2. That we *challenge the individual churches* of our District to take an heroic stand against the further promotion and introduction into

the life of the local congregations—all questionable money-raising methods, especially such which include the element of chance.

3. That we instruct the District Council

a) to make a *careful survey* of the problem of money-raising methods as in vogue in the churches of our District.

b) To inaugurate an educational campaign within the District toward a better understanding of the hindrances and dangers of questionable money-raising schemes.

c) To *promote the introduction* into local congregations and societies of *more Christian* and non-objectionable *ways and means* of promoting Christian giving, in harmony with the recognized principles of Christian Stewardship of money.

4. That we inaugurate with this conference a special "Honor Roll" for all such churches within the district, who pledge themselves to eliminate from their church life all questionable money-raising schemes and aim to place their whole giving program on a thoroughly Christian basis. The promotion of this "Honor Roll" is to become a duty of the above mentioned commission

5. That we recommend to the Synodical Kingdom Service department to give similar educational and promotional leadership throughout the Evangelical Synod in the interest of a united higher standard of money-raising ways and means in local churches and the establishment of an "Honor Roll" for churches adopting an outstanding Christian giving program.

6. It is the understanding of this conference that the terms "gambling" and "questionable" means of making money as used above are to be applied to the whole field of business investment and speculation.

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Whereas, the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church meeting in June, 1936 at Ft. Wayne, Ind., has gone on record as favoring admission to "The Alliance of Reformed Churches of the World Holding the Presbyterian System" (with which the Reformed Church of the U. S. has long been affiliated) we register our protest against seeking admission into this body unless a similar affiliation with the "Lutheran World Convention" is also sought.

#### **Election of Officers of the District**

Rev. Carl G. Haass, 192 Child Street, Rochester, N. Y., President.

Rev. Elmer H. Hoefer, 96 Saranac St., Rochester, N. Y., Vice-President.

Rev. Paul Frohne, 108 Hewitt Ave., Buffalo, N. Y., Secretary.

Leo W. Blaufuss, 10 Wichita Rd., Sta. D., Buffalo, N. Y., Treasurer.

#### **DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mr. William Bender, Buffalo, N. Y. (1939), Mr. Fred Baetz, Rochester, N. Y. (1941), Rev. Carl Loos, Erie, Pa. (1943).

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL

(Term expires 1941)

The President and the District and Mr. Henry Albrecht, Rochester,  
N. Y.

DISTRICT COURT

(Term expires 1941)

Rev. R. Vieweg, Rev. Paul Schroeder, Rev. F. Pfitzer, Mr. Carl Siekmann, Dr. J. K. DeTuerk.

DISTRICT BOARDS

(The District Conference elects one-third of the membership. The year after name denotes expiration of term.)

1. *Home Mission Board*: Rev. A. E. Viehe (1939), Mrs. F. Schultz (1939), Rev. Walter Hetzel (1941), Mr. Adam Conrad (1941), Rev. Carl Vogelmann (1943), Mr. Carl Siekmann (1943).

2. *Foreign Mission Board*: Rev. Theo. Twente (1939). Rev. J. Huebschmann (1941), August Reinhardt (1943).

3. *Board of Religious Education*: Rev. Rodney Heckmann (1939), Rev. R. Locher (1939), Mr. Henry Eisenberger (1939), Rev. T. Trost (1941), Fred. Oswald (1941), Rev. T. Mayer (1943), Mrs. Edwin Curtze (1943).

4. *Pension Board*: Rev. L. Moessner (1939), Rev. O. Dietsche (1941), Fred Bickson (1943).

5. *Board of Examiners*: Rev. John Huebschmann (1939), Rev. L. Moessner (1941), Rev. H. Lohans (1943).

COMMITTEES

1. *Social Service*: Rev. H. J. Hahn, Rev. Braynard Kurkowski, Rev. J. Paul Goebel.

2. *Evangelical League*: Rev. M. Schiffman, Rev. R. Philbrook, William Lauterbach, Roy Timm, Helen Pope.

3. *Advisory Committee* (elected): A. District Brotherhood, Rev. Carl G. Haass, Rev. H. A. Fenske; B. District Women's Federation, Rev. E. Hoefer, Rev. J. Paul Goebel.

4. *Historical Commission*: Rev. R. Vieweg, Rev. A. C. G. Baltzer, Rev. T. L. Trost, Rev. H. A. Kraemer, Rev. C. Bachmann, Rev. Paul Frohne, Dist. Sec.

Our prayers of thanks to God for the services of the Rev. Paul Langhorst. We also extend a vote of thanks to Bethlehem Church for permitting Rev. Langhorst to place his services, as President of the District, always at the disposal of the District.

Be it resolved: That the 49th conference extend its hearty thanks to the Moderator, the Rev. Paul Langhorst, for the able conduct of the same. Again Rev. Langhorst has demonstrated his untiring efforts, patience and wisdom, which were a great factor in making the conference a success.

Be it resolved: That the President and ex-president of the District be given the authority to dispose of accumulated unessential records and correspondence agreed by them as such.

## Services and Addresses

After the opening communion service on Tuesday various services were held.

On Tuesday evening a very beautiful and inspiring service was conducted by the Rev. Louis Moessner, Meadville, Pa., with anthems by the choir and the sermon preached by the Rev. Elmer H. Hoefer of Rochester on "Religion—Profession or Service."

The Wednesday morning devotion was conducted by Rev. R. Vieweg and the prayer was given by Rev. Theophil Twente, N. Tonawanda.

On Wednesday morning the closing devotion was conducted by the Rev. Leon K. Molter, who spoke on "Unity of the Spirit and Individual Freedom."

At the close of the afternoon session the Rev. Carl Loos, Erie, Pa., led in a very touching Memorial Service speaking on 1 Cor. 15: 51: "Behold I Show You a Mystery." The Rev. H. H. Lohans offered prayer.

The evening service found the Rev. Leon K. Molter, a son of the German Evangelical Church of Elmira, N. Y. conducting the worship service in a very devotional spirit. A pastors' quartet composed of the Reverends C. Vogelmann, P. Frohne, K. Kindt and A. Juergens sang two numbers and the Rev. P. Frohne rendered a solo. The sermon on "The Character and Task of the Christian Church was preached by the Rev. Paul M. Schroeder, Salem Church, Rochester.

On Thursday morning the opening devotion was conducted by the Rev. Vieweg with the Rev. K. Kindt leading in prayer.

The morning sessions closed with a devotion on "Unity of the Spirit as a Source of United Action," 1 Cor. 12: 11, was conducted by the Rev. I. Dietsche, Attica, N. Y.

The afternoon devotion on "The Unity of the Spirit as a Disciplinary Force," 1 Cor. 12: 12-13 presented by the Rev. Paul Frankefeld, Buffalo, N. Y.

The service Thursday evening was the 50th Anniversary service. The Rev. H. A. Kraemer of Buffalo, N. Y. preached a very interesting and helpful sermon on the basis of 1 Cor. 4: 20 "The Kingdom of God is not in Word, but in Power." He spoke of the early beginnings of the District and of the work accomplished through the year. The Rev. H. A. Fenske, Buffalo, N. Y. conducted the devotional service and spoke very touchingly of the high esteem in which the speaker of the evening is held by all. Musical numbers enhanced the service. The Rev. R. Vieweg installed the District officers. The retiring President of the District, the Rev. Paul Langhorst expressed the hearty thanks of the District to the Rev. and Mrs. R. Vieweg and also to the church for the very gracious way in which they entertained the conference to which the Rev. R. Vieweg responded in a very charming manner.

The devotion on Friday morning was conducted by Rev. Vieweg and the Rev. H. H. Lohans offered prayer.

The closing devotion of the conference was given by the Rev. Paul Langhorst, who gave a very fine paper on "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine." This brought the 49th conference of the New York District to a very wonderful close.

*Carl G. Haass, Secretary.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**48th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**NORTH ILLINOIS DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Immanuel Evangelical and Reformed Church,**  
**Peotone, Ill.**  
Rev. E. H. Plassmann, Pastor

**May 11 to 14, 1937**

The 48th Conference of the North Illinois District convened in Immanuel Evangelical and Reformed Church, Peotone, Illinois, May 11, 1937, at 10:30 A. M. The Conference opened with a worship service in charge of the Rev. A. H. Bizer and the Rev. L. G. Weber, delivering the message, using as his theme: "What of the Church?" The Reverends H. E. Lambrecht and August Fleer officiated at the Lord's Table.

The following pastors conducted the devotionals held at the opening of each business session: Reverends E. J. Helm, Walter Kleemann, William Mueller, J. C. Voecks, H. H. Senne and W. F. Huebner.

**Memorial Service**

A special Memorial Service was held on Wednesday evening. The service was in charge of the Rev. R. P. Zimmermann. The sermon was preached by Dr. H. J. Schick on the theme: "Life's Farewell Symphony."

**Addresses**

"The Larger Kingdom Service"—Dr. F. Frankenfeld.  
"Our Foreign Mission Enterprises"—Dr. F. A. Goetsch.  
"Elmhurst College"—Dr. Timothy Lehmann.  
"The New Constitution"—Dr. F. Frankenfeld.  
"Progress in Church Union"—Dr. L. W. Goebel.  
"Our Home Mission Task"—Rev. F. R. Daries.  
Dr. S. D. Press, President of Eden Seminary spoke to the pastors and lay delegates assembled in separate sessions.

**Conference Committees**

1. Credentials, Excuses and Traveling (Registration)—Pastors: B. Freese, F. W. Schroeder, A. Fruechte, C. Beehler, R. Leonhardt. Con-

gregations: St. Peter, Chicago; Evangelical Community, Blue Island; Zion, North Grove; Bethel, Rockford; Immanuel, Hammond.

2. Resolutions—Pastors: G. S. Gerhold, G. L. Scherger, F. Frankenfeld, H. Brodt, P. Crusius, G. Winger, P. Buchmueller, H. Dinkmeyer, Wm. Rest. Congregations: St. John, Lincoln; St. Peter, Champaign; St. John, Addison Twp.; First English, Chicago; Peace, Chicago; St. Luke, Chicago; St. John, Kankakee.

3. Application for Membership—Dr. T. Lehmann, Rev. M. Schroedel, Dr. F. Frankenfeld.

4. Auditing—Pastors: L. Landgrebe, Alfred Meyer, T. C. Clare, A. B. Gaebe. Congregations: St. Paul, Davis; St. Peter, Elmhurst.

5. Nominating—Pastors: E. Arends, R. P. Zimmermann, A. Dexheimer, W. Kleffmann, J. Hoefer, G. Horst. Congregations: St. Paul, Pekin; Edison Park, Chicago; St. Paul, Chicago; St. Peter, Grant Park; St. Paul, Downers Grove.

6. Elections—Pastors: A. Klug, E. Crusius, J. Michel, Th. Bierbaum, H. Warber, T. Tiemeyer. Congregations: Bethel, Chicago; St. Philippus, Chicago; Immanuel, Dolton; St. John, Freeport; St. Peter, Frankfort; Evang. Community, Homewood.

#### **Report of the District President**

Dear Brethren:

But unto you that fear my name shall the sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings. Malachi 4: 2.

Our Lord will come to those who fear his name with healing in his wings. We need to be healed, sorely need to be healed. The men and women of this age are weakened in their spiritual life by the many and new worldly elements that demand their time and attention. The sons and daughters, who would see visions and dream dreams, thrown into the stream of speed, noise, and confusion, are denied the normal opportunity to let the soul come into its own and, as a result, are too busy pursuing the rainbow to give time to a confused and, as they are told, obsolete religion.

What is the church going to do? Sit idly by and express her impotence in a material age or is she going to face the conflict knowing "Our faith is the victory that overcometh the world."

What is the church offering her people today? We know that our religious education is lacking and falls short of the desired mark. Our divine worship in many cases is very lean and fails to bring the hungry soul the true bread of life. Ask a person, why do you go to church? and you may be surprised at the answer. Many will hardly know why except that they were told to go and somehow feel they should go to church on Sunday.

The divine service must offer something definite to the worshipper that he feels he is actually missing something that is essential to his life if he fails to attend the service. Divine worship, as I see it, should contain certain elements which are understood as such and desired by the worshipper.

These are: 1. His Word. This must speak to the congregation and have a definite message for the same. It must be taken from Holy Writ. 2. The knowledge of the presence of Christ in his sanctuary and the joy of worshipping him in the beauty of holiness through communion with him. 3. The absolution which should be definitely pronounced upon the worshippers who with repentance, true faith and devotion pledge their love, loyalty and service to him. Christ's greatest gift to the world is forgiveness of sins. The world's greatest need is this divine gift. As Jesus pronounced forgiveness of sins two thousand years ago, so does he today, and the church, his body, must not fail him. 4. The sermon, which is the teaching element in the service, must be used and not abused. 5. God's blessing must be laid upon the congregation at the close of the service. This does not mean merely to pronounce a benediction, but actually the laying of God's blessing on the congregation as he himself commanded in Numbers 6: 22.

It will require patient and much instruction before the individual member will acquire the actual meaning and value of worship which is the finest of arts. But when he does understand it, his religion will not be an irksome duty, as is only too often the case, but will become a joy and pleasure. He will know at divine worship he hears God speak to him, he is in his very presence. He receives the forgiveness of his sins, he has learned something about God's will and, before he leaves, God lays his blessing on him. The soul is revived. There is healing in his wings.

It was my privilege to attend the General Synod at Ft. Wayne, Ind. History was made at this conference. You will hear more about some of the achievements at another time of this conference.

There is much organization in our church. Much of this is very necessary and some of less value, but one phase of essential activity of the church seems to be more or less neglected. I am thinking of the organization of our youth. I made a repeated appeal for the same at the General Synod only to be told I was out of order. At this time I bring my appeal to you, the North Illinois District. Can we not effect an organization for the young people of our church that will be a vitalizing force in the Christian and denominational life of our youth and through the same in the congregations? Surely, we do not lack vision or wish to neglect the time of early cultivation when the tender plants are exposed to the elements or threatened by weeds. May I point to the Walther League, its organization, its activity, its strength? No comment is needed. I have often painfully felt the need of something for our youth more definite and to the point than we have. Beware, lest we be found wanting.

At various times I received letters from church members and also from pastors regarding questionable means of money making. The very word, questionable, is an indictment. Dare a church stoop to become a violator of the law? Christ cleansed the temple and it is up to his followers to keep it clean. We can not expect God's blessing by violating the laws of his Kingdom.

The Elmhurst-Eden Advance made a commendable contribution to our educational institutions during the past year. The amount given by the North Illinois District in 1936 was \$4,853.00. However, we need to emphasize in our various congregations that the outstanding pledges be paid as soon as possible. Pastors and delegates can do much to expedite matters. The follow-up work is quite expensive, therefore your help is valuable and much needed. Delegates, please, make a note of this and bring this matter before your congregations in your reports on the conference.

We regret to have to report the resignation of the Vice-President the Rev. G. A. Neumann. Due to serious illness he was compelled to be relieved from the burden of this office. We accepted this resignation reluctantly. The Rev. G. S. Gerhold, who rendered the district so much valuable service, was appointed to grace this office for the unexpired term, and the Rev. H. E. Koenig was selected to serve the district as the clerical member-at-large. We are grateful to God to report that Brother Neumann has recovered from his illness and is again able to serve the Lord in his congregation in his faithful and efficient way.

We have the honor and the joy of having five pastors in our district who are celebrating their 50th anniversary in the ministry this year. They are the pastors P. Brueckner, J. Kircher, H. Leesmann, M. Schroedel, and H. Tietke. We thank these loyal servants of the Lord for their prolific services in the Kingdom of God and in our Evangelical Synod. May God bless them and keep them. Our grateful prayers and good wishes go with them as they go beyond the half century mark as messengers and servants of our Lord Jesus.

Dr. F. C. Klick, President of the Evangelical Synod, calls our attention to the fact that the General Synod will meet for its third regular session in St. John Evangelical Church, at Columbus, Ohio in A. D. 1938. The exact date will be determined by the Executive Committee.

We welcome the pastors emeriti and deem it an honor to have them with us as our guests with their wise counsel and good advice. They are ever an inspiration to us to take up the torch, which they have laid down, and carry it high and forward to a glorious victory in our Master's name.

We congratulate the pastors and congregations that celebrated anniversaries and festivals during the past year. Our good wishes and prayers go with them. May those days not be merely days marked in the span of time, but stepping stones to greater achievements in the service of our Lord, Jesus.

Sorrow came into various homes since we last met and bore loved ones into eternity. Our heart felt sympathy goes out to them, and we offer a silent prayer for them that the darkness may be turned into light and death into victory. May Jesus, whom they served loyally, be not only the risen Christ, but Christ realized with whom they share His glory as angels of God in his home on the other side. A memorial service will be held in loving memory of these loyal servants on Wednesday evening of this conference.

#### STATUS OF THE DISTRICT

The status of the North Illinois District at the time of this 48th district conference is as follows:	
Churches affiliated with the Evangelical Synod.....	119
Churches not affiliated but served by Evangelical pastors.....	4
Pastors serving churches.....	112
Professors at Elmhurst College.....	12
Pastors retired from service.....	20
Superintendents of institutions.....	3
Pastors engaged in non-synodical work.....	1
Commissioned workers .....	4
Pastors temporarily without a charge.....	5
Total number of pastors.....	157

#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Five pastors and one congregation have applied for membership in the Evangelical Synod of N. A. Their applications have been favorably acted upon by the Board of Directors of the Synod and will be presented by the Board of Examiners for action at the proper time as indicated on the conference program.

I have written and urged the remaining three congregation within the district, which are being served by our pastors and are receiving the blessings of our Christian fellowship and denominational help, to seriously consider membership in our Evangelical Synod.

#### CHANGES IN PASTORATES

##### *Within the District*

Rev. S. A. Recht, from Longgrove Ev. to Trinity, Chicago.  
Rev. E. M. Ringe from Creve Coeur to Longgrove Evangelical.  
Rev. E. Rathmann to St. Paul, Crystal Lake.  
Rev. Theodore Bierbaum to Zion Evangelical, Carpentersville.

##### *Transfers from Other Districts*

Rev. Roland Mernitz from the Southern District.  
Rev. J. R. Kalwitz from the Wisconsin District.  
Rev. H. Weier from Eden Seminary.  
Rev. R. Fillbrandt from the Indiana District.  
Rev. J. A. Wahl from the West Missouri District.  
Rev. G. A. Firlau from the Kansas District.

##### *Licensed Pastor*

Mr. Edward Busse to serve St. Matthew Ev. Church, Chicago.

##### *Transfers to Other Districts*

Rev. F. C. Krueger to the South Illinois District.  
Rev. Th. Haller to the Iowa District.  
Rev. Norman Zulauf to the Southern District.

##### *Installations*

Rev. A. T. Gerhold, St. Peter, Kewanee, Ill., by Rev. G. S. Gerhold,  
June 21, 1936.

Rev. J. R. Kalwitz, St. John, Arlington Heights, by Rev. J. H. Ellerbrake, July 5, 1936.  
Rev. E. A. Wahl, St. Peter, Grant Park, by Rev. J. H. Ellerbrake, August 9, 1936.  
Rev. Roland Mernitz, St. Peter, Petersburg, by Rev. J. A. Hoefer, August 30, 1936.  
Rev. S. A. Recht, Trinity, Chicago, by Dr. J. Kircher, Sept. 27, 1936.  
Rev. Henry Weier, St. Paul, Manhattan, by Rev. G. S. Gerhold, October 4, 1936.  
Rev. R. Fillbrandt, Gethsemane, Chicago, Rev. G. L. Scherger, Oct. 11, 1936.  
Rev. E. M. Ringe, Longgrove, Evangelical, Prairie View, by Rev. Theodore Bierbaum, Nov. 29, 1936.  
Rev. E. Rathmann, Nov. 22, 1936, St. Paul, Crystal Lake, by Wm. Rathmann and Wm. Rest.  
Rev. Theodore Bierbaum, Zion, Carpentersville, by Rev. George W. Goebel, Feb. 28, 1937.

*Ordinations*

Authorized by the president and the Board of Directors the following were duly ordained as ministers of the Gospel:  
Mr. Alfred Braun, June 7, 1936, in St. Peter Evangelical Church, Elmhurst, by Rev. J. K. Braun, assisted by Dr. F. Frankenfeld and Prof. Th. Mueller.  
Mr. Elmer Ansley, June 14, 1936, Chicago, by Rev. Karl Meyer, assisted by Rev. Robert Stanger and Rev. J. J. Braun.  
Mr. Paul R. Meyer, June 14, 1936, in Ravenswood Evangelical Church, Chicago, by his father Rev. Alfred Meyer, assisted by Rev. J. H. Dinkmeyer and Dr. Wm. Bauer.  
Mr. Henry Weier, Oct. 4, 1936, in St. Paul Evangelical Church, Manhattan, by Rev. G. S. Gerhold, assisted by Rev. E. H. Plassmann and Rev. Paul Reichert.  
Dr. Paul Lehmann, Jan. 27, 1937, in St. Peter Ev. Church, Elmhurst, by Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, assisted by Dr. F. Frankenfeld.  
Mr. Fritz Chartron, June 21, 1936, in St. Paul Evangelical Church, Chicago, by Dr. G. L. Scherger, assisted by Rev. Max Stommel and Dr. Karl Bauer.

*MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT*

Teacher Daniel Schlundt, Chicago, Ill., Oct. 13, 1936, age 63 years.  
Rev. George Deckinger, Mokena, Ill., Nov. 3, 1936, age 86 years.  
Mrs. Clara Dreusicke, Hinsdale, Ill., Jan. 27, 1937, age 60 years.  
Mrs. Ernstine Bierbaum, Aurora, Ill., Mar. 30, 1937, age 82 years.

*IN CONCLUSION*

The President of the Evangelical Synod sends his greetings to this conference and prays that the days of fellowship may give to all, who are in attendance, a new courage to carry on the work of the Master, and that the Holy Spirit may guide and direct us in such a way that everything may redound to God's glory.

We are very happy to have as the representative of the Synod at this conference our own Dr. L. W. Goebel. We invite his counsel and appreciate his service.

Your president received a letter from Rev. G. A. Kienle, expressing his regrets that he can not be with us, but he wants us to know the good news that the hospital has made splendid progress. All debts have now been paid and the hospital is in an excellent condition, financially and every other way.

I desire at this time to gratefully recognize the cordial cooperation and faithful service rendered by the individual members of the district council. It was necessary to call upon them often, either individually or in group, and these good fellow-Christians were ever willing to give of their time and service wholeheartedly whenever called upon to serve. It is a pleasure to work with such men and they were always a source of encouragement and inspiration especially when, as at times, the burden of district work was very heavy. God bless you, my dear brethren. You have been very kind to me.

The North Illinois District made very substantial gains in approaching the goal of the assigned quota of our Synodical Budget. We deeply appreciate the spirit of good-will, loyalty and sacrifice of the pastors and members of the various congregations.

With this conference my service as your president will terminate. I have tried to serve you as best I could. I appreciated the trust placed in me.

You have been very patient and lenient with me in many ways. I thank you from the depth of my soul for your kindness and pray that God's countenance may continue to shine upon us all and give us grace to continue in His service to the glory of His holy name and the salvation of many souls.

May Christ's blessing rest upon this conference!

Respectfully submitted, *Arno A. Zimmermann*,  
President of the North Illinois District.

#### **Report of the Auditing Committee**

We, the Auditing Committee, have examined the books of the District Treasurer, Mr. E. W. Schumacher, and find them correct according to the statement of the Treasurer as herewith presented.

##### **TREASURER'S REPORT, MAY 11, 1937**

Balance last audit.....	\$ 818.95
Received during the year:	
District Dues .....	\$2,133.24
Contingent Fund .....	967.10
Meals and Registration .....	312.00
Grotefeld Fund .....	36.00
Mohri Fund .....	20.00
	————— 3,468.34
	————— \$4,287.29

**Expenditures:**

Contingent Fund to General Treasurer .....	\$1,724.00
Rev. H. P. Vieth, General Conference .....	600.00
District Council Expense .....	236.80
St. Paul Church, Elgin Conference Expense .....	250.00
Gratification District President and Secretary .....	250.00
Rev. A. F. Mohri .....	52.50
Mrs. Wm. Grotfeld .....	155.00
Rev. H. G. Kroehler, Religious Education Expense .....	50.00
Eden Publishing House Printing .....	40.80
General Council Expense .....	27.88
Kingdom Service Committee Expense .....	24.54
Conference Programs .....	20.21
Caretaker, Elgin Church .....	10.00
E. W. Schumacher, Conference Expense .....	11.67
Premium Treasurer's Bond .....	5.63
Salary Treasurer for 3 years .....	3.00
	———— \$3,462.03
Balance .....	\$ 825.26
In Defunct Bank .....	\$ 156.13
On Deposit Nat'l Security Bank .....	669.13
	———— \$ 825.26

The District resolves that the Treasurer be relieved of all further obligations for the past year.

*Louis Landgrebe*

*A. B. Gaebe*

*Emil Vonder Ohe*

**Resolutions**

REPORT OF PRESIDENT KLICK

1. The North Illinois District extends a vote of thanks to the president of the synod for efficient and devoted performance of the frequently difficult and trying duties of his office, and heartily approves the prompt action taken for flood relief.

2. The District is in full accord with the president's emphatic declaration on the constant need of certainty and conviction in preaching of the gospel. Whether in an age of faith or in an age of doubt, "Thus saith the Lord" is the preacher's supreme and sole authority.

3. The North Illinois District approves the Constitution submitted for the Evangelical and Reformed Church by the General Synod at Fort Wayne in 1936.

4. The district desires to express its appreciation to the members of the boards and the officers of the societies of the E and R sections of the Evangelical and Reformed Church who have accomplished the task of merging their work, and trusts that the other boards will soon achieve the same goal.

5. The district acknowledges with thanks to God the services rendered in manifold ways by the pastors, the wives of pastors, and by many devoted members of the church who have departed this life during the past year, and extends its sympathy to the bereaved families.

#### DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. We heartily endorse the suggestion of the President of our North Illinois District in his report that every effort be put forth to make our services more vital and spiritual, so that the beauty and significance of worship be more greatly emphasized.

2. We share our President's hope that greater efforts will be made to effect an organization of the youth of our District, working in harmony with whatever plan is presented by the National Board. We feel that somehow we do not adequately grip our young people after they have been confirmed and that too large a proportion seem to think they have graduated *from* the church instead of *into* the Church. We direct our district Board of Christian Education to take steps to work out such a plan.

3. We extend to the five pastors in our district who are celebrating their 50th anniversary, viz. Pastors P. Brueckner, Julius Kircher, H. Leesmann, M. Schroedel, and H. Tietke, our heartiest thanks for their long and faithful service and wish that the Lord may bless them and keep them.

#### LARGER KINGDOM SERVICE

1. Although the tangible results which have been achieved to date in the debt-liquidation effort, fell far below the expectations of many, the North Illinois District believes the Larger Kingdom Service to have been very much worth-while in that it

Disseminated needed information,  
created a more general interest,  
presented a greater challenge,  
solicited a more adequate response—

all of which will prove helpful in securing a more liberal support of the various kingdom enterprises in the future.

2. The North Illinois District commends Dr. J. P. Meyer and the various Kingdom Service Committees for their untiring labors, and expresses sincere gratitude to all the pastors and the congregations who have given whole-hearted cooperation.

3. The North Illinois District pledges continued support in the effort to liquidate the entire indebtedness and to raise the budget in full by the end of the current year.

4. The North Illinois District requests every congregation within the district definitely to accept its assigned share, not less than 63% of the assigned budget quota, for the liquidation of the indebtedness, and to forward an official commitment in writing to the General Director at St. Louis, if possible by July 1st, 1937.

5. The North Illinois District requests all organizations within the

church to give every possible support toward the liquidation of the indebtedness and raising the budget.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. The North Illinois District notes with gratitude the progress which is being made in the various endeavors to unify the work of the Church, and encourages the Committee on Correlation and Promotion to continue its commendable efforts in this direction.

2. The North Illinois District requests all its members to give willing and whole-hearted support to every enterprise which may be launched to achieve as soon as possible, the coveted goal.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE REPORT OF THE PENSION BOARD

1. The District approves the action of the Central Board in allowing pensions for 1937 on the basis of 1936, even if the reserves set aside for emergency must be absorbed.

2. The North Illinois District requests the Finance Committee of the General Council to grant the Board of Pension and Relief an increase of not less than \$10,000 in the paying basis of the budget for the year 1938.

3. The North Illinois District expresses its hope that under the united Church a new pension system may be evolved which will guarantee to our aged pastors and widows an adequate income for their declining years.

4. The District deplores the fact that Eden Publishing House has not been able for a number of years to make its customary payment of \$10,000.00 annually into the Pension Fund, thereby making it necessary either to absorb the reserves or decrease the pensions.

EDEN SEMINARY

1. The North Illinois District coincides with the view of Dr. S. D. Press, that in this age of distress and confusion we need a ministry which is "God-conscious and Christ-conscious, which ministers even at the price of its own soul to save a lost world," and commends the leadership of Eden Seminary for its every effort in aiming to develop such a ministry.

2. The North Illinois District congratulates Dr. Wm. Baur upon the completion of his thirty-two years of faithful service on the faculty of Eden Seminary, and in his retiring years wishes him God's choicest blessings.

3. The District takes cognizance of the increasing interest shown in the annual Convocation which is arranged by the faculty of Eden Seminary and encourages its pastors to make use of this opportunity.

ELMHURST COLLEGE

1. We extend our compliments to the President, the Board of Trustees and the Faculty of Elmhurst College for the really splendid work they are doing in elevating the standard of that institution. We rejoice in the steadily rising enrollment, in the success of the co-educa-

tional feature, and in the strengthening of the faculty. We urge that every effort be made to increase the income and improve the financial status of the college so that the larger plans may be carried out.

#### ELMHURST-EDEN ADVANCE

1. The North Illinois District recognizes the importance of the systematic and persistent effort which is being made to complete the Elmhurst-Eden Advance, and pledges continued support until the difficult task is finished.
2. The North Illinois District expresses sincere gratitude to Dr. T. Lehmann and his faithful staff, for their earnest and patient labors.

#### HOME MISSIONS

1. The North Illinois District recognizes with deep appreciation that the Board of Home Missions was enabled to carry on such effective work in extending the Kingdom in the less favorable regions, despite the unfavorable social, economic and spiritual influences which so oftentimes hindered the work.
2. The North Illinois District hopes that with the change toward more promising conditions in the economic world, new fields of labor may be opened soon.
3. The North Illinois District rejoices in the progress made in the Evangelization through special projects such as: The Ozarks, Madeline Island, Biloxi, and City Missions, and hopes that God's blessings may continue to rest upon them.

#### DISTRICT HOME MISSIONS

1. The North Illinois District heartily commends the faithful workers and their congregations for their so faithful and loyal service in such trying times, encouraging them to hold fast to the Lord's promise: "In due time we shall reap if we faint not."
2. The North Illinois District directs its Home Missions Board to make a careful survey and investigate such rural fields in its boards where various small churches are not functioning, with the purpose in view to organize these into union and community churches.
3. The North Illinois District commends the St. Paul's Congregation at Pekin for its truly Christian spirit in supporting the mission church at Creve Coeur.

#### BROTHERHOOD

1. We congratulate the members of the board of directors of the Churchmen's Brotherhood on their success in merging the men's work of the two churches. We urge every congregation to have their men affiliate with the Brotherhood. We endorse the various projects and urge that all will stress the establishment and cultivation of family devotions and the Brotherhood Reading course.
2. Since the Churchmen's district board feels that our District is ripe and ready for a federation we recommend that a district convention be held at an early date to effect such a federation.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS

1. We earnestly recommend the careful reading of the report of the Board of Foreign Missions, so ably written by Dr. Goetsch, convinced that it will "challenge the Church and its members to thanksgiving and praise and to renewed and greater efforts in the accomplishment of its missionary task."

2. We are happy to learn that "the flow of candidates from the lay ranks of our church is eminently satisfactory," and deplore the fact that so few ordained men are ready to volunteer for work in the foreign field. We suggest that efforts be put forth by the Board of Foreign Missions to organize, if possible, a Student Volunteer Band among the students at Eden Seminary.

3. We commend our new recruit to India, Miss Helen Mueller, to the loving care of our Father in heaven and pray that much joy may be given her as she seeks to serve her Lord in the Foreign field.

4. We thank the Board of Foreign Missions for having made it possible that the Rev. Armin Meyer, Khariar, India, at present home on furlough, could spend forty days in our midst for the purpose of presenting the work as carried on in India. We also thank the Rev. Meyer for his splendid messages and his tireless interest and devotion to the cause which made him willing to speak over fifty times during the forty days allotted to him for deputation work in our midst. (Note: Pastor Meyer's tour covered four regions of our district; Arlington Heights, Freeport-LaSalle, Bloomington, and Monee. The Central Board has agreed to make available the services of a missionary for deputation work this fall to speak in Chicago and the West Suburban Region.)

5. We find that the rotogravure leaflet prepared jointly by the boards of the merged Church was exceptionally helpful to all who used it to promote missions, and we request that similar leaflets be prepared from year to year.

6. We encourage the newly formed Board of International Missions to further explore the possibility of "opening up a work of our own" in Africa.

7. We join our workers in the India Field in giving expression of thanks because of the "brightening prospects due to a deepening interest in the Christian Gospel and the Christian life on the part of widely separated groups of inhabitants" and we share in their "new joy and greater hopefulness."

8. Mindful of the fact that our Synod has always upheld and fostered the cause of union between Christian groups, we heartily commend in principle the effort being made to merge our India Mission District with the United Church of Northern India. Not being sufficiently conversant with the details involved, we give expression to our confidence in the judgment of the members of the Board and of the India Conference that they will proceed in such a way as may be best for the advancement of the Kingdom.

9. We recognize and commend the pioneer work which is being car-

ried on so successfully by the pastors Emil Menzel, John C. Koenig and Theodore C. Seybold in the field of primary and secondary education.

We thank Dr. Herbert Gass for stating so beautifully the spiritual objectives of our medical work. See page 89, par. 1.

10. We recognize the added difficulties our representatives in Honduras are asked to face as a result of the prejudice which is being engendered in Spain against all free and liberal movements. We pledge our Honduran workers that more earnestly than ever before we will bring their cause before God's throne of grace in prayer, and we assure them that their courage and steadfastness inspires us to be more faithful in promoting the Kingdom work entrusted to our care.

11. The North Illinois District approves the formation of The Council of Missionary Education to foster and promote missionary interest in the local church.

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

1. The North Illinois District is happy to hear that the Board of Religious Education, the Evangelical League and the Board of Christian Education have been able to merge their work.

2. The District urges its members to make a greater use of the services offered by this Board.

3. The North Illinois District recognizes the unusually significant program planned by the Board of Christian Education for the First National Conference on Christian Education of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, which is to be held at Lakeside, Ohio, June 28 to July 1 of this year, and hopes that the minimum goal of fifty delegates set for its churches will be far exceeded. To this end, it urges all churches to send delegates from as many departments of church work as possible to this conference.

4. The North Illinois District favors a readjustment of the proposed guaranteed amount to the Board of Religious Education and the Evangelical League Board for the current fiscal year to the amount received last year.

5. The North Illinois District urges its churches to take advantage wherever and whenever possible of the work and program of the Illinois Church Council through its departments of Child Guidance, Youth Movements, and Leadership Education.

#### DUNKIRK BOARD

1. The North Illinois District congratulates the four eastern Districts which maintain Dunkirk and wishes them God's blessing in the furtherance of their work.

#### BOARD OF PUBLICATION

1. The North Illinois District understands the difficulties under which the editors of the "Messenger" are laboring to make it the official organ of the General Synod, acceptable to both groups, and appreciate the progress made.

2. The North Illinois District approves the changes in the Board's

personnel necessitated by the death of Mr. J. H. Heineman, Keokuk, Iowa, and the resignation of Mr. A. C. Goetsch, St. Louis, because of ill health.

3. The North Illinois District is very much surprised to learn that Eden Publishing House with gross receipts of \$267,670.29 still shows a deficit of \$5,302.92 and feels that a careful investigation of the business methods of this concern should be made by a committee appointed by the proper authorities; this committee to suggest changes remedying this deplorable condition.

#### COMMISSION ON CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

1. Recognizing the fact that in its historical development the church has again and again permitted the standard and motive of the world to undermine its effectiveness as a constructive factor in society, we welcome the aim of the Commission for Christian Social Action to clarify our thinking in the field of social action and to devise ways and means leading toward more fruitful service.

#### FEDERATION OF CHARITIES

1. The North Illinois District congratulates the benevolent institutions of our Church on the splendid work they have done in the past year in caring for nearly 34,000 persons, and is especially gratified to learn that these institutions were able to do charity work amounting to \$242,771.76, this sum representing 17.7% of their annual expense.

2. Inasmuch as the churches contribute only 10% of the annual expense of the institutions, the North Illinois District urges its congregations to contribute more liberally to these, our own institutions, that they may do still more good to the needy and unfortunate, whom Christ has called, "My brethren."

#### EXTENSION FUND

1. The North Illinois District commends the Church Extension Fund Board for its faithful work during the past year. The District feels that the Board is taking the only possible stand toward repayment of loans until the General Synod gives new instructions.

#### ENDOWMENT AND TRUST FUNDS

1. The North Illinois District commends the Board of Endowment and Trust Funds for its faithful work in behalf of our church, which made it possible that during the years of depression a loss of only \$6.48 per \$1,000.00 (less than 6½ mills) was incurred in our capital funds.

#### HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The North Illinois District takes this opportunity to express its appreciation of the fore-sighted efforts of the Historical Commission to preserve the records of the history of the Evangelical Synod, and offers the following recommendations:

1. That the work of the Historical Commission be continued on a permanent basis with the support of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

2. That preparations be undertaken by the president and the General Council of the Evangelical Synod for the fitting observance of the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the "Kirchenverein des Westens" in 1840.

#### WOMEN'S UNION

1. The North Illinois District commends the Women's Union on the splendid work it is doing. Especially does it express its appreciation of their faithful and efficient officers and the secretaries, the Rev. H. L. Streich and Mrs. Elsa Reichenbach for their inspiring leadership.

2. The North Illinois District prays that God's richest blessing may rest upon the National Women's Convention in St. Louis, and that the convention may prove to be the source of inspiration and consecration to the women of our churches.

3. The District urges its pastors to note the recommendations on page 146 of the Annual Reports and to encourage their women's societies to adopt these various suggestions.

#### DISTRICT WOMEN'S UNION

1. The North Illinois District is gratified with the fine work the North Illinois District Women's Union in the past year in promoting the work of the Church.

2. The North Illinois District commends the Women's Union on their effort to deepen the spiritual life of our constituency and their promotion of the work of the church at large through their various projects.

#### SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

1. The North Illinois District insists that the Synodical officers and Boards keep faith with the Church by reducing their expenditures to the actual income and thereby balance the budget. (Note: 1936 Budget deficit was \$10,583.43 and would have been \$5,000.00 greater but for the timely gift of an individual.

In addition:

Eden Deficit .....	\$ 2,037.99	Page 39 Annual Reports
Elmhurst .....	3,414.55	" 44 "
Home Mission .....	9,034.37	" 60 "
Foreign .....	6,697.69	" 96 "
Dunkirk .....	801.99	" 118 "

\$32,570.02 Total deficit, which total is not shown in the reports.

2. The North Illinois District suggests to the Committee in charge that they reduce the size of the proposed Synods wherever practical.

3. The North Illinois District expresses its appreciation to the Rev. E. H. Plassmann and the members of his household, the Immanuel congregation of Peotone and all others who helped to make our stay in Peotone so enjoyable.

4. The District votes a gratification of \$10.00 to the janitor of the local church.

5. The District votes \$200.00 and \$50.00 to the President and the Secretary of the District respectively to reimburse them in part for their extra expense in connection with their office.

6. The District recognizes with sincere sorrow the great loss it has sustained in the death of Dr. E. H. Hohman, who through many years has devoted his time and talents unstintingly and unselfishly to the cause of Christ and his church in the community, the district and the church at large. The District expresses its deep appreciation of Brother Hohman's many and varied services and offers to the bereaved family sincere Christian sympathy.

7. Whereas, there is pending in the Lower House of the General Assembly of the state of Illinois, a bill, to amend "an act to establish and maintain a system of free schools," approved June 12, 1909, by adding section 273b, thereby permitting the reading of the Bible in Public Schools of the State of Illinois, and

Whereas, the passage of said bill, will meet with certain objections, when same bill will be presented to the proper committee of said legislature, for recommendations favorable for its passage; therefore the author of said bill requests a qualified and suitable person or persons be present to present arguments urging its passage.

Now therefore, be it resolved, that this Conference appoint a clergyman and layman qualified to appear before the committee of the legislature, urging the passage and adoption of said bill when same will be reached for consideration.

Be it further resolved that the North Illinois District of the Evangelical Synod of North America, representing a group of some 36,000 voters in the northern section of the State of Illinois, go on record as officially favoring the passage of this bill.

Be it further resolved that the District Council be instructed to pay the expenses of the duly appointed representatives.

8. The District expresses its deep appreciation to Rev. A. A. Zimmermann for his able service as President of the District during the last four years. It also gives sincere thanks to all other retiring officers for their faithful work.

9. Be it resolved: all reports of Regional presidents be referred to Resolutions Committee—and matters of import to District presented by them in the form of resolutions.

10. The North Illinois District instructs the District Council to arrange for a literature and book table at all subsequent conferences.

11. The North Illinois District expresses the hope that the commissions on the Book of Worship and the new hymnal expedite their work so that a final report can be presented at the General Synod in June, 1938.

The District would also request that the commission consider the addition of aids to worship to the hymnal such as:

- a) Various orders of worship
- b) At least two series of pericopes

- c) Order for Lay Baptism
- d) Order for Communion
- e) A more adequate selection of responsive readings
- f) A collection of prayers for private and public use.

12. Deploring the lack of publicity given to our church by the daily press in our District, the District instructs its Council to appoint a Public Relations Director, whose duty it shall be to see that all matters of interest be given proper publicity. This Director shall also arrange with the Illinois Bell Telephone Company for a proper listing of our Churches and Pastors in Chicago and Suburban classified Directory.

He shall also do such other work as will keep our Church and its endeavors before the public mind.

13. The North Illinois District instructs the District Council to appoint a Commission of three pastors and two laymen who shall study the youth problem in our District and present its findings and recommendations at the next Conference.

14. The North Illinois District drops the name of the Rev. Theo. Holtorf from its membership list.

15. (The Lay Delegates submitted the following Resolution, which was accepted by the Conference): We, the lay delegates assembled, ask that the Conference have prepared a condensed report of the proceedings of this Conference, so the delegates may bring before their congregations the most important thoughts of the Conference, and each delegate be furnished with a copy. A committee of two shall be appointed to select from the mimeographed reports such sections as are of special interest to the Churches and send them mimeographed to the different delegates.

16. The District appreciates receiving the cablegram from the Rev. George W. Goebel from Hamburg, Germany, and thanks him for his kind greeting to the Conference.

17. We regret the inability of some of our brethren to attend the Conference because of illness, and wish them God's blessing and a speedy recovery.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Upon recommendation of the Board of examiners the following were received into full membership with the Synod:

##### *A. Ministers*

- 1. Rev. Henry A. Weier
- 2. Rev. Robert J. Baldauf
- 3. Rev. Adolph Stoerker
- 4. Rev. Elmer M. Ringe
- 5. Rev. Herman Sander
- 6. Rev. Paul L. Lehmann

##### *B. Congregation*

- 1. St. Peter Evangelical, Niles Center, Ill.

#### TRAVELING EXPENSES

By resolution of the Conference the average traveling expense for pastors was set at \$3.25 and for lay representatives at \$2.75. The surplus was turned over to the District Treasury.

#### ELECTIONS

*Moderator:* Dr. T. Lehmann.

*Vice-Moderator:* Rev. A. F. Dexheimer.

*District Officers and Council:* Rev. F. W. Schroeder, Chicago, Ill., President; Rev. E. H. Plassmann, Peotone, Ill., Vice-President; Rev. Karl H. Meyer, Chicago, Ill., Secretary; Mr. E. W. Schumacher, 2043 Augusta Blvd., Chicago, Ill., Treasurer; Member at large of the District Council, Mr. William Richards, Hinsdale, Ill.

*General Council:* Rev. F. W. Schroeder and Mr. A. Krusemark.

*District Court:* Rev. George W. Goebel, Rev. E. F. Rathmann, Rev. August Fleer, Mr. H. Giesecke and Mr. E. Von Der Ohe.

*Home Missions:* Dr. F. Frankenfeld and Mr. P. Gerdes, 6 years; Rev. A. B. Gaebe and Mr. Albert Landmeier, 4 years; Rev. G. Horst and Mr. A. Herbst, 2 years.

*Foreign Missions:* Rev. H. Limper, 6 years; Rev. E. Helm, 4 years; Mr. Otto Luedtke, 2 years.

*Pension Fund:* Mr. William C. Krause, 6 years; Rev. B. Leesmann, 4 years; Rev. George W. Goebel, 2 years.

*Christian Education:* Rev. Walter Kleffmann, 6 years; Rev. L. P. Landgrebe and Dr. Paul L. Lehmann, 4 years; Rev. H. Kroehler and Mr. J. Michel, 2 years.

*Board of Examiners:* Rev. M. Schroedel, 6 years; Dr. F. Frankenfeld, 4 years; Dr. T. Lehmann, 2 years.

*Inspector Mutual Fire Ins. Association:* Rev. Paul Repke.

*Kingdom Service:* Arlington Heights Region: Rev. E. A. Irion, Lake Zurich, Ill. Bloomington Region: Rev. Paul Buchmueller, Minonk, Ill. Chicago Region: Rev. F. P. Umbeck, Chicago, Ill.; Rev. E. J. Helm, Blue Island, Ill. Chicago Suburban: Rev. A. Klug, West Chicago, Ill. Freeport-LaSalle Region: Rev. E. Arends, Freeport, Ill. Monee Region: Rev. Theo. Buchmueller, Kankakee, Ill.

*Churchmen's Brotherhood:* Rev. Paul Winger, Niles Center, Ill.; Mr. Arthur Meyer, Chicago, Ill.; Mr. H. A. Schroeder, Peotone, Ill.; Mr. R. Nordhold, Chicago, Ill.; Mr. E. Kleiner, Chicago, Ill.

*Evangelical Women's Union:* Rev. H. Bloesch, Monee, Ill.; Rev. Ph. Bassler, Dolton, Ill.

*Pastor's Home at Bensenville:* Rev. H. Limper, Bensenville, Ill.; Rev. George W. Goebel, Des Plaines, Ill.; Rev. J. C. Voeks, Palatine, Ill. Churches: Bethlehem and St. Peter's, Chicago, Ill.

*Social Service and Charitable Institutions:* Rev. F. Piepenbrok, Deerfield, Ill.; Rev. A. H. Bizer, Northbrook, Ill.

*Historical Commission: Dr. J. Kircher, Chicago, Ill.; Rev. John Herrmann, East Chicago, Ind.*

**Conclusion**

The newly elected officers were installed by Dr. L. W. Goebel. Adjournment at 6 P. M., Thursday, May 13, 1937, sine die. The closing prayer was spoken by the retiring District President, the Rev. Arno A. Zimmerman.

*E. H. Plassmann, Secretary.*

Approved: *Timothy Lehmann, Moderator.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**48th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**OHIO DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**St. John's Evangelical and Reformed Church, Tiffin, Ohio**  
Rev. E. C. Klutey, Pastor  
**June 22 to 24, 1937**

The 48th conference of the Ohio District of the Evangelical Synod of N. A. held in St. John's Evangelical Church, Tiffin, Ohio, was opened with a brief devotion led by the President of the district, Rev. H. E. Pheiffer. Roll call revealed a quorum present and the conference was officially declared in session. Rev. H. E. Pheiffer was elected Moderator and Rev. O. Zwilling, Vice-moderator. The committee on credentials, mileage and excuses reported the names of the pastors and official delegates registered and upon their recommendation, approved by the conference, were given seat and vote. Rev. R. Schleur and Rev. J. E. Digel were excused for part time attendance and Rev. H. T. Bahnsen for the entire conference.

The nominating committee appointed by the district council was announced as, E. Irion, Chairman, L. Hegeman, R. J. Loew, P. C. Kaefer, and E. Agricola.

The following district officers and committees reports were read, received and referred to the respective conference committees for further action and recommendations. District President, Kingdom Service Committee, Pension and Relief, Christian Education, Advisors of Women's Union, Detroit Home for Orphans and Aged, Evangelical Deaconess Hospital.

The afternoon session opened with a devotion led by Rev. H. Schairbaum. We were welcomed to the city by the mayor and to St. John's Church by Karl Goetz. Rev. F. Meusch the synodical representative addressed us. Rev. A. Dreusicke brought us interesting information on Ministerial Pension and Relief.

After adjournment for one and one-half hours for committee work, the conference assembled and heard an enlightening address on "Worship" by Rev. F. H. Klemme.

In the ministerium, the district examining board reported through its chairman, Rev. Theo. Merten. The Board recommended three candi-

dates, C. L. Adelsperger, E. G. Wiest, and Ralph Kuether to the ministerium and in turn to recommend them to the conference to be received as members of the Ohio District and the Evangelical Synod of N. A. Report accepted. Adjournment.

### Second Day—June 23

The second day of the conference was opened by a meditation led by Rev. Fred Kuether. Reading of minutes and roll call followed. The District Examining Board through its chairman presented the recommendation of the Ministerium to the conference, viz. that the three candidates above mentioned be received into the Ohio District and the Evangelical Synod of N. A. Upon motion and second by laymen, they were so received. President Pheiffer welcomed them and Rev. C. L. Adelsperger responded.

In the course of the session two addresses were given. Mrs. Mae Ashbrook spoke on "The Women's Union," and Rev. E. Irion spoke on "The Church Program."

The afternoon session was opened by a devotion led by Rev. R. Schleur. The following addresses were heard: "Medical Work in India" by Dr. E. W. Whitcomb, "Synodical Debt Liquidation" by Dr. J. P. Meyer, "Rediscoveries in the Task of Christian Education" by A. R. Keppel, "The Churchmen's Brotherhood" by R. W. Blemker, and "The Ohio Council of Churches" by B. F. Lamb.

In the course of the day the nominating committee presented names of candidates to fill the offices of the district and the election was held by ballot. Various committees brought resolutions which were adopted. The Credential Committee recommended additional delegates to the conference. Accepted. The same committee moved that the equalization fee be set at \$3.50. Seconded and carried. Adjournment.

The evening meal was in the form of an Eden-Elmhurst Alumni banquet over which Rev. H. H. Schowe presided. Speakers were Professor A. Wehrli, Dr. J. P. Meyer, and Rev. H. E. Pheiffer.

### Third Day—June 24

Conference was opened by a Memorial service led by Rev. W. J. Bartels. Roll call and reading of minutes followed. The following district budget for the coming year was presented and accepted:

Expense (Office and travel of District Officers).....	\$ 150.00
Printing .....	150.00
Home Mission Board .....	300.00
Ohio Council of Churches .....	400.00
Board of Religious Education .....	50.00
General Council Expense .....	70.00
District Conference Expense .....	100.00
General Conference .....	400.00
District Council Travel .....	100.00
Committee on Evangelism .....	25.00

Detroit Representative .....	50.00
District President .....	360.00
District Secretary .....	120.00
Miscellaneous .....	85.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,360.00

Rev. A. E. Klick gave an address on "Pastoral Work" in which he emphasized the minister as preacher, teacher, administrator, shepherd and friend. Various committees reported and further elections were held. It was moved and seconded that the District Council be authorized to appoint the remaining boards and committees. Carried. The President appointed Rev. F. H. Klemme and Rev. Theo. Schlundt to audit the books of the treasurer. The Portsmouth congregation expressed their gratitude to the district for the relief given them in the recent flood in January. Rev. H. E. Pfeiffer installed the newly elected district officers. There was the final reading of the minutes after which the conference was adjourned by the closing prayer by Rev. H. H. Schowe.

*Services of Devotion, Inspiration and Fellowship.* The outstanding features of the conference were these services held jointly with the members of the Ohio Synod of the "R" church. The Ohio District and the Ohio Synod are the first to join in such services. The first evening of the conference these two groups joined in a service of Holy Communion held in Trinity Reformed Church. Rev. F. H. Klemme presided at the altar, Dr. C. E. Miller and Rev. Paul Pfeiffer were celebrants and Dr. Paul S. Leinbach, editor of the "Messenger," brought the message on the theme "Salvation is appropriated according ones faith." On the following evening such joint service was held in St. John's Evangelical Church. Rev. E. Grady Schoffner presided at the altar and Professor Allen G. Wehrli brought the message on the theme, "When the Spirit of God Is Welcome." Both of these services were beautified by anthems by the choirs of the respective churches.

From 10:30 to 12 o'clock on Wednesday and Thursday of the conference there were also held jointly services of Spiritual Emphasis. The first one was held in Rickly Chapel of Heidelberg College. Rev. L. H. Lammers presided and Dr. Paul S. Leinbach and Prof. Allen G. Wehrli addressed us on "Seeing with the Eyes of Jesus" and "The Ways of God with Men of God" respectively. On the following day the services were held in St. John's Church with Rev. Earl E. Engle presiding. Dr. Clarence E. Josephson, President-elect of Heidelberg College and Prof. Allen G. Wehrli addressed us on the themes, "Rivals of the Church in 1937" and "Prophetic Stimulus in an Age of Compromise" respectively.

Wednesday noon there was a fellowship dinner in the Men's Commons Heidelberg College after which "Corporate Union in Ohio" was discussed. Rev. H. E. Pfeiffer, President of the Ohio District and Rev. E. E. Zechial, President of the Ohio Synod spoke briefly. Out of

this meeting there grew the following resolution: "Be it resolved that we overture the Ohio District of the E group and the Ohio Synod of the R group, asking each to appoint five men to constitute a joint commission to work out a plan for corporate union in Ohio of these two groups." Adopted.

### **Resolutions Adopted by the Conference**

#### **PRESIDENT OF THE SYNOD**

1. We realize that the church of Christ has never faced a greater opportunity, nor a more difficult task than in these days of universal falling away and the chaos resulting therefrom.
2. Never before has the church been in greater need of a ministry, wide awake to its duty and well founded in the principles of the Gospel of Christ and of a laity ready to show Christ to an agnostic world.
3. The District approves the new constitution of the Evangelical and Reformed Church as submitted at the General Synod held at Ft. Wayne, Indiana in 1936 and accepts in general the boundaries as proposed in the appendix of the constitution.
4. The district approves wholeheartedly the merger of the different boards of the two groups, whereby the actual union of the two bodies will be hastened.
5. We are happy that the congregations answered so generously the call for help in the flood stricken areas and express our deepest sympathies to those who have been so severely affected by this disaster.
6. The district indorses the actions of President Klick during his administration and assures him of its wholehearted cooperation.

#### **SYNODICAL TREASURER**

We thank Mr. F. A. Keck for his efficient handling of the funds of the synod.

#### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

1. We indorse the timely publication "Church News" and encourage its continuation.
2. The Lenten pamphlet has become a necessity to our Evangelical people and we ask that every pastor and congregation to help its continuation by paying the extremely low costs.
3. Concerning the annual statistical reports, we urge again every pastor to report promptly and follow the rubrics as provided with correct and definite information.

#### **BOARD OF TRUST FUNDS**

1. We commend the board for its extremely efficient management of the investments entrusted to its care.
2. We are glad to hear that the losses for the last year have been reduced by almost 50% as compared with those of the previous year.
3. We hope that by the help of God and the faithful stewardship, the hope of the Board to report a gain instead of loss shall be realized in the near future.

#### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1. We believe that the Kingdom of God, incarnate in the true followers of Jesus, will express itself in a passion for social justice and we further agree that theology means a Christ-conscious ministry which ministers at the price of its own soul to save a lost world.
2. We are gratified that the field work aspect of the preparation of our theological students for the Christian ministry is progressing, and we hope that these opportunities will be made available in the future.
3. We approve the convocation program and believe that this plan adds greatly to the life of the school.
4. We note with pleasure that Elmhurst College as a co-educational school is making steady progress which is evidenced by the rising enrollment.

#### ELMHURST-EDEN ADVANCE

We rejoice that the systematic follow-up through field and office work has been continued successfully and that an earnest effort to complete this project by the end of 1939 is being made.

#### DUNKIRK

1. We approve the action of the Board of Directors to proceed with the construction of a new administration building in the near future and we ask our congregations to pledge their continued support.
2. We extend our sincere congratulations to the Board of Directors upon the fifteenth anniversary of the establishment of our Dunkirk Conference Grounds, and we hope that Dunkirk will continue to grow and to influence the lives of young and old for Jesus Christ.

#### DISTRICT PRESIDENT, DISTRICT COUNCIL

1. We agree with our president that the Christian church has a heavy responsibility in bringing the Spirit of Christ to bear upon the great social, economic, and political questions of our troublous times.
2. It is our conviction that the Christian Church must adhere to the basic ideals and vital principles of Jesus Christ and that laymen and ministers alike must reconsecrate themselves without reservation to the Master's cause.
3. We heartily approve of the action of the District Council in making it possible for this conference to meet in several sessions with the conference of the Ohio Synod of the R group. We hope that these joint sessions may be steps toward the proposed organic union with the Reformed brethren.
4. We express our sincere gratitude to our retiring president, Rev. H. E. Pheiffer, for the faithful and efficient discharge of his duties.

#### HOME MISSIONS (SYNODICAL)

1. The Ohio District is mindful of the splendid work that is carried on in the Ozark Mountains, in the Back Bay Region at Biloxi, Miss. and at Madeline Island in Wisconsin and assures the workers in the respective fields of its continued interest and support in building the Master's Kingdom in these different fields.

2. We heartily endorse the appointment of a committee by the Home Mission Board for the special study of City Missions. We deeply appreciate, with the board, the ever growing need for a more thorough planning to reach the vast numbers of the unchurched in our larger centers: and therefore urge our churches to cooperate in whatever way possible through federated activities or otherwise to reach these people.

3. Since it is vitally necessary for information to precede inspiration in any given task, we heartily welcome the Missionary Education and Promotion Program offered by our Home Mission Board. We welcome the Rev. D. D. Baker of Baltimore as Director in these new educational efforts and wish him success in his new field of service.

4. We rejoice with the Home Mission Board in the splendid spirit manifested by St. Luke's Evangelical Church, Cincinnati, Ohio, and by the Rev. Conrad Held in bequeathing their assets, upon dissolution of their organizations, to Home Missions.

5. We commend our Home Mission Board for its firm belief in Inter-denominational cooperation, and for its participation in the work of the Home Missions Council of America.

#### HOME MISSIONS (DISTRICT)

1. The Ohio District deeply regrets that it was necessary for the Board of Home Missions to decrease the salaries of all our Mission workers during the past year, and gratefully acknowledges the fact that in spite of this added difficulty, they have been willing and able to carry on in their respective fields in a commendable way.

2. We concur with the District Mission Board that we must ever be alert to discover new mission fields, but we suggest that for the present the Ohio District concern itself primarily with more intensive work in our mission fields, rather than to expand at this time.

#### CHURCH EXTENSION BOARD

We are grateful that in spite of curtailed receipts of this Board, it has been enabled to render valuable financial assistance to a number of churches during the past year.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS

1. We are happy to note the splendid work that is being done by our Board of Foreign Missions and missionaries in spreading the Gospel in India and Honduras.

2. The work of Foreign Missions in our church has manifested an increased interest, as evidenced by the larger number of lay missionary applicants and by the fact that the M. E. mission property in Raipur has been acquired by the Board through special gifts.

3. We are happy that the report also shows splendid progress in the Honduras field.

4. We recognize the splendid promotional work done by our missionaries on furlough and encourage the continuance and increase of that work. We suggest the wider use of motion pictures in presenting the missionary task.

5. We note with pleasure the incorporating of the two Boards of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and look forward to the time when there will be a complete unification of their endeavors in the foreign field.

6. We appreciate the great value of a united church in India, and we therefore encourage the board to go forward in this work. With regard to the question of deeding the property rights to either the United Church in Northern India or to the India Mission District, we recommend further study. We express our confidence in the Board with regard to their ultimate decision in this matter.

7. We are convinced that the tour of Dr. Goetsch to our eastern mission fields has meant much to the foreign task. His report, "Rethinking Our Missionary Task in India" is a comprehensive account of the work in the field. It also offers the basis for the further development of that work.

8. We are pleased to note the progress of the medical work in India and are happy to know that some such work is being done in Honduras. We recommend that the medical work in Honduras be extended as means are available.

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

1. We approve and appreciate all of the work in the merger of the three educational boards, the Board of Religious Education, Evangelical League Board, and the Board of Christian Education.

2. We urge that every possible effort be put forth to establish and continue a correlated study for Youth and Adult Education in the churches.

3. We heartily endorse the various bulletins, helps, and aids suggested by the Executive Secretary for Youth; such as, *The Kingdom Come*, *News for Leaders of Youth*, and *The Student*.

4. We earnestly commend the development of the Children's Work according to the best possible talent and best available support. We heartily agree with the Executive Secretary that provision for this basic work be made as soon as possible.

5. From the report the Ohio District has realized that without leadership training there can be no real advancement. Furthermore, it is more essential that most serious thought be given to the proposed matter of field workers and leadership training which we hope will become effective as early as possible.

6. We earnestly trust that every possible effort will be made by those who control the publishing of the periodicals and all publications to speed the day when the proposed new merged materials will be made a reality.

7. We heartily approve the work of the correlated mission organizations and would urge that all churches observe at least one Sunday a month as Missionary Sunday.

8. We urge that all churches avail themselves of the special services that are offered by the Christian Education Board, such as, lending

libraries, picture department, stereopticon slides, film library, pamphlets, special day literature, and personal guidance in local problems.

9. It is a most hopeful and healthy sign toward real advancement that two groups, the Evangelical and Reformed are called together at this first Christian Education Conference at Lakeside, Ohio, and we trust that this will become an annual affair.

10. We as the Ohio District go on record as favoring a readjustment of the proposed guaranteed amount to the Board of Religious Education and the Evangelical League Board for the immediate and future years as we feel that continued curtailment will most seriously impair the church of tomorrow.

#### EVANGELISM

1. We commend the committee on Evangelism upon the quiet but effective way in which it has contributed to the devotional life of the church.

2. We heartily endorse the National Preaching Mission and pray that it may be but a beginning of a genuine spiritual awakening within the Christian Church.

3. We recommend that the district committee on Evangelism be given a reasonable appropriation from the district budget and be instructed and empowered to experiment in wholesome evangelism within the district.

#### KINGDOM SERVICE

1. We wish to commend the congregations in the district who have participated in the Synodical debt liquidation and encourage other churches to also share in this responsibility.

2. We further commend the churches in the district who have raised their benevolent budget, thereby preventing further increase of the Synodical debt.

3. We heartily appreciate the thorough leadership on the part of our Kingdom Service Director, Dr. J. P. Meyer, and wish him continued success.

4. We recommend that the regional Kingdom Service Director make stated visits to all church councils or congregations to present the Larger Kingdom work.

#### COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

1. We approve the attitude of the Commission on Christian Social Action in censoring the church for being too greatly concerned with its self-preservation as an institution to the disparagement of the Kingdom of God.

2. We agree with the Commission on Christian Social Action that the church must not compromise its message in order to preserve the status quo.

3. We urge the Commission to provide available literature that will lead the church to a deeper understanding of the social, economic, racial, and political issues of the day.

4. We petition the General Synod to earnestly consider increasing the appropriation for the Commission on Christian Social Action.

5. We urge the churches and the individual members of the Ohio District of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to take their stand for Christian justice on the great issues of the day, but we plead with them to temper their judgment of contending groups in the present struggle for power, with a Christ-like compassion, born of genuine humility.

6. We urge the authorities responsible for the publication of the "Messenger" and "Friedensbote" to regularly allocate space in these publications to the Commission on Christian Social Action.

#### MUTUAL INSURANCE, HISTORICAL COMMISSION AND AUDITING

1. Resolved that we accept the report of the Historical Commission. We urge the churches to support the Historical Commission in continuing its work of accumulating materials of historical significance to the Evangelical Synod.

2. We commend Rev. Clarence Higgins, Ohio District Inspector of Fire and Storm Insurance, for the work he has done and recommend that the churches of the district avail themselves of the privilege of the protection afforded by insuring with the Mutual Fire and Storm Association.

3. In examining the books we found that there is a total of 100 policies in force, seventy old policies totaling \$333,950 and thirty new fire and storm policies totaling \$255,170—a grand total of \$595,120. Sixteenth Assessment—\$968.98. Loss by storm for the year 1936—\$16.25.

4. We have examined the report of the treasurer of the district and find that he has received into the district fund \$2,021.65; into the Contingent fund \$1,065.46. We find that he has dispersed \$1,887.65 of the district funds and \$1,156.83 of the contingent fund. There is a balance in the district fund of \$853.87 and in the contingent fund \$253.11.

#### CHURCHMEN'S BROTHERHOOD

We urge all pastors to make every effort to mobilize the men of their respective churches and link them up with the Churchmen's Brotherhood so that not only ten percent of our men, but a much larger number may enjoy the blessings which this fellowship can bring.

#### WOMEN'S UNION

We rejoice in the decision of the Women's Union at its national convention of recent date to adopt the Plan of Union with the Reformed Women's Missionary Society. We expect much good to come from the united woman power of our church. Especially do we pray for a more fervent missionary spirit to animate our Evangelical women.

#### FEDERATED CHARITIES

We would urge every charitable institution and organization within the united church to join this Federation. Only thus can we get a complete picture of the benevolent work of the Evangelical and Reformed church.

We express our sincere appreciation to Rev. H. L. Streich for his untiring work in steering the Brotherhood and the Women's Union for fifteen years. His labors have not been in vain.

We recommend that an annual report to the District be requested of all benevolent institutions within the confines of the District, in order to familiarize our constituency with this branch of the work of our church.

#### PENSION AND RELIEF

We request the Finance Committee of the General Council to grant the Board of Pension and Relief an increase of not less than \$10,000 in the paying basis of the budget for 1938.

#### BOARD OF PUBLICATION

We instruct our pastors to urge all members to subscribe for the "Messenger."

### Correlations and Special Resolutions

1. The Ohio District expresses its sincere thanks to Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Klutey, the St. John's Church, its members and organizations, through whose gracious hospitality the conference experienced three enjoyable days.

2. We are grateful for the excellent manner in which the various officers of the district have carried on their work.

3. We deeply appreciate the inspiring, edifying and instructive messages which have been brought to us by the various speakers.

4. The Ohio District approves the division into Synods as proposed by the committee on Constitution and Charter and authorizes its President to appoint a committee of five, one from each of the four sections involved in the proposed new synods and the District President for necessary adjustments. The District, however, will abide by the ultimate decision of the Constitution Committee.

5. We express our congratulations to St. John's Evangelical Church of Massillon, Ohio, on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary which is being celebrated this week. We appreciate the services of this congregation and its pastor up through the century. Be it resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Pastor of St. John's Church, Massillon, Ohio.

6. We instruct the secretary to convey a word of greeting to Rev. S. Egger and Rev. C. Fischer.

### Elections and Appointments

*District President:* Rev. L. H. Lammers.

*Vice-President:* Rev. C. E. Schmidt.

*Secretary:* Rev. C. C. Huprich.

*Treasurer:* Mr. George W. Krause.

*Member of District Council:* Henry K. Gassan; 718 W. Anglaize St., Wapakoneta, Ohio.

*Delegates to General Council:* Rev. H. E. Pheiffer, Mr. Carl D. Fischer, Jr.

*Home Mission Board:* Rev. O. Zwilling, Mr. Leon C. Smith.

*Board of Religious Education:* Rev. H. H. Schowe, Miss Bernice Buehler.

*District Pension Board:* Rev. Paul David.

*Board of Examiners:* Rev. E. N. Krafft (6), E. Irion (4), H. T. Bahnsen (2).

*District Inspector for Mutual Insurance Association:* Rev. C. M. Higgins.

*Representative on Detroit Home Board:* Rev. W. J. Kuhlman.

*Kingdom Service Committee:* Clevéland: O. Zwilling, T. Honold. Northwest: H. Schowe, W. J. Kuhlman. Tuscarawas: C. C. Huprich, C. M. Higgins. Southern: T. Schlundt, J. K. Braun. West: R. J. Loew, R. Schluer.

*Advisors to Churchmen's Brotherhood:* Rev. C. E. Schmidt, Rev. H. E. Pheiffer.

*Advisors to Women's Union Federation:* Rev. R. J. Loew, Rev. Paul Schmidt.

*Committee on Evangelism:* Rev. F. H. Klemme, Rev. J. K. Braun.

*Representative on Ohio Council of Churches:* Rev. Paul C. Kaefer.

*Commission for Corporate Union in Ohio:* O. Zwilling, H. E. Pheiffer, C. C. Huprich, L. H. Lammers and G. W. Grauer.

Read and approved

Rev. H. E. Pheiffer, President and Moderator.

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**24th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**PACIFIC-NORTHWEST DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**St. Paul's Evangelical Church, Seattle, Wash.**  
Rev. August E. Binder, Pastor

**May 6 to 9, 1937**

**Opening Services**

The opening service of the 24th conference of the Pacific Northwest District was held on Thursday, 7:45 P. M., May 6, 1937, in St. Paul's Evangelical Church, Seattle, Washington, Rev. A. E. Binder, pastor loci, had charge of the altar service and Mr. Conrad C. Schild, president of St. Paul's Church welcomed the conference to which Rev. C. Warber, District President, responded. Rev. W. A. Werth, pastor of Trinity Evangelical Church, Spokane, Washington, delivered the conference sermon using for his text: John 12: 24. Choir numbers and solos and floral decorations added to the beauty of this and the other services.

**Friday Morning, May 7, 9:00 A. M.**

The morning devotions were led by Rev. C. Warber and Rev. P. Jueling and Rev. W. A. Werth. Rev. C. Warber, president of the district, called the conference to order. The credentials committee thereupon reported. The following were given voice and vote:

Ministers: Chas. Warber, Everett; A. Beutenmueller, Payette; A. E. Binder, Seattle; J. Berkenkamp, Walla Walla; E. Hergert, Portland; C. F. Howe, Portland; P. Jueling, Tacoma; W. A. Werth, Spokane; C. Hoffman, Portland; F. Oppermann, East Sound, Wash.

Delegates: J. W. Steinbis, Zion, Everett; Mrs. A. Beutenmueller, St. John, Payette; Frank J. Hensel, St. Paul, Seattle; Mrs. J. E. Lone, Broadview, Seattle; Fred Kraening, Friedens, Walla Walla; Jacob Schutt, St. Paul, Portland; Mrs. Ray Juergens, St. Johns, Portland; Frank Cook, Immanuel, Tacoma; Paul S. Warber, Trinity, Spokane; Walter Ramser, Zion, Gresham.

The program was adopted as presented by program committee. The delegates, and also the representatives of church organizations were

introduced to the conference. Rev. W. A. Werth was elected moderator and Rev. A. Beutenmueller, Vice-moderator. Several guests were introduced and welcomed. Greetings to the conference were received from Rev. F. C. Klick, D.D., President of the Evangelical Synod, Rev. I. G. Nace, President of Portland-Oregon Classis, Rev. Edwin Horstman, Rev. Henry C. Warber, Rev. Ed. A. Mayer, United Evangelical Church, Rupert, and St. Paul's Evangelical Church, Sugar City, and others. Mrs. H. McElroy was introduced and welcomed as a member of the District Council.

The first session was followed by Ministerial Conclave and Laymen's Session.

3:30 P. M. General Assembly. Miss Daisy June Trout, President of Seattle Council of Federated Church Women, gave a fine and inspiring address on "Releasing the Lay Forces for Kingdom Building."

7:45 P. M. A drama, "The Eleventh Mayor" showing the futility of settling national and international differences by warfare, was presented under the direction of the District Committee for Christian Education, Rev. W. A. Werth, Chairman.

### **Saturday Morning, May 8, 9:00 A. M.—Second Session**

#### **RESOLUTIONS BASED ON REPORT OF DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

With our president we acknowledge our opportunity and our responsibility to be workers together with Christ for the advancement of his kingdom; and in reliance upon his assurance of final victory we should heed the call as expressed by a Christian poet: "Great things attempt for Him, great things expect."

We congratulate St. Paul's Church of Seattle, Washington, and St. John's of Payette, Idaho, with their pastors in view of their reports of recent visible successes achieved in their church work.

The Pacific-Northwest District approves the Constitution adopted by the General Synod at Fort Wayne, Indiana, June 10-17, 1936.

The Pacific-Northwest District considers the proposed Pacific Coast Synod utterly impracticable and advises the formation of a Pacific Northwest Synod composed of the Pacific-Northwest District and the Portland-Oregon Classis.

The Pacific-Northwest District commends the five congregations that paid their full budget quota in 1936 and recommends that every congregation of the district make every effort to reach the 1937 goal.

The District congratulates Immanuel's Church of Tacoma and Friedens, Walla Walla, Washington, who having paid their full budget quota, also reached the suggested quota for debt liquidation.

The Pacific-Northwest District agrees with its Committee on Pension and Relief that the present reduced support of the pensioners in face of the ever-increasing cost of living is inadequate, and in accordance with the recommendation of its committee would suggest to the General Council to provide for a more liberal appropriation of not less than \$10,000 from the Budget for the Pension Fund.

## Saturday Afternoon, May 8—Fourth Session

1:30 P. M. Ministerial Conclave.  
Meeting of the District Women's Union.  
Meeting of the District Young People's League.

2:40 P. M. Conference Business.  
The resolutions of the Findings Committee were read, discussed, and accepted as follows:

### FINDINGS COMMITTEE

The Pacific Northwest District recommends that steps be taken to increase the present inadequate pensions for retired ministers and widows, and recommends that as a means thereto payments of 2 percent of a pastor's salary be paid by the pastor and a like amount by the congregation into the Pension Fund.

The Pacific Northwest District believes that the suggested union of the India Mission District with the United Church of Northern India is a move in the right direction. In reference to property rights, it holds that for the present it would be best to retain this in the name of an incorporated synod, which would be a part of the United Church of Northern India.

The Pacific Northwest District thanks its beloved president, Dr. F. C. Klick, for his plea to the Districts to put spiritual things first, and it is our prayer, individually and collectively, to more thoroughly love God above all, and the neighbor as ourselves.

### SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

As acknowledgement of contributions to the synodical budget is an important factor in promoting Christian giving, we recommend that these contributions from the churches shall be published either in The Messenger as heretofore in the Evangelical Herald, or that monthly financial statements be published.

Whereas the German chorals translated by Rev. J. H. Horstmann and others contained in our Evangelical Hymnal rank among the highest in spiritual values and poetical beauty, the Pacific Northwest District asks the "Committee on New Hymnal" to give these translations favorable consideration.

The following were elected as District officers: Vice-president, Rev. P. Jueling; Secretary, Rev. C. F. Howe; Treasurer, Mr. J. D. Frank; Member of District Council, Paul S. Warber.

The invitation extended by Friedens Evangelical and Reformed Church at Walla Walla, Washington, to hold the next conference in their midst was accepted with thanks.

4:00 P. M. Adjournment. Sight-seeing tour of Seattle, courtesy of St. Paul's Evangelical Church.

### **Sunday May 9**

11:00 A. M. Communion Service.

Rev. A. E. Binder, pastor loci, served at the altar, assisted by Rev. C. F. Howe, and Rev. C. Hoffman preached the sermon on "Christ's Designation of the Church—My Church."

Rev. C. Warber, President of the District, expressed the vote of thanks of the conference to St. Paul's congregation for the hospitality shown.

The members of the conference assembled at 2:30 P. M. for the Memorial Service and final session. Rev. F. Oppermann preached the Memorial sermon, and Rev. C. Hoffman installed the newly elected officers. After the reading of the final minutes the conference adjourned sine die.

*C. F. Howe, Secretary.*

Approved, *Chas. Warber, President.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**39th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Trinity Evangelical Church, Dorseyville, Pa.**  
Rev. E. H. Bassler, Minister

**April 23 to 26, 1937**

Conference Motto: "A New Era for A New Church"

Conference Hymn: "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

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The thirty-ninth conference of the Pennsylvania District was held in Trinity Church, Dorseyville, Pa., Rev. E. H. Bassler, Pastor, from April 23-26, 1937.

The conference began with a service of Holy Communion with the Rev. E. H. Bassler officiating, assisted by the Rev. J. R. C. Haas.

In the Friday evening service Rev. O. D. Hempelmann served at the altar and Dr. F. A. Goetsch, Synodical Representative, spoke on "The Character and Task of the Church."

Saturday evening a program of visual education was presented. Films on the Reformed Mission Work in Japan and the Evangelical Mission Work in India were shown.

Sunday morning Rev. Robert Johnson and Dr. F. A. Goetsch addressed the Sunday School. Rev. Henry Fox spoke to the Primary Department. Rev. O. W. Breuhaus officiated at the morning service. The sermon on "Our Christian Life" was delivered by Dr. Goetsch.

Sunday evening Dr. Ephraim Aboosh, oriental traveler, presented an illustrated lecture on the Holy Land. Rev. C. A. Ittel, presided.

The devotional studies on Saturday and Monday mornings were presented by Rev. H. L. Krause, pastor of the Reformed Church of the Ascension of Pittsburgh. His subject was, "Treasures in Earthen Vessels."

Dr. J. P. Meyer was the guest of the conference until Saturday evening. He addressed the conference on, "The Status of the Church" and challenged the District with the necessity of completing the Debt Liquidation Campaign.

During the conference Rev. G. Sennewald and Rev. I. Stegner, graduates of Eden Seminary, were received into the Synod.

The business sessions were spent in the study of District and Synodical Reports.

### Resolutions

#### REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESIDENT

1. We are of the opinion that the Preaching Mission and the Dwight L. Moody Anniversary have done much in awakening the voice of certainty and conviction in both the ministry and church members to the Master's Cause, and express the hope that by our coming together in conference this revival might be continued. We welcome also the organization of the schools of Christian Living.

2. The Pennsylvania District desires to go on record as approving the New Constitution adopted by the General Synod, meeting at Fort Wayne, Ind. in 1936.

3. The District expresses its approval as to the proposed plan of the division of the Church into synods as found in the Appendix to the constitution.

4. The District expresses its joyous approval over the permission granted by the Board of Directors of the Synod to the Board of Foreign Missions in sanctioning our Church in India to become a part of the "United Church of Northern India."

5. We note with deep gratitude the help that was granted to fellow Christians in the flood areas, giving evidence of the fact that "if one member suffers all members suffer with it."

6. Our Christian sympathy goes out to all those among the clergy and laity who have stood at the graves of loved ones during the past year and we recommend that time for appropriate recognition of these losses sustained be given during these conference days.

#### OUR LARGER KINGDOM SERVICE

We appreciate the effort and cooperation put forth by all our churches in Synodical Debt Reduction work. However we realize the many prevalent handicaps encountered and recommend that greater zeal be taken in bringing about a full realization of the goal.

#### DISTRICT PRESIDENT

1. We approve and adopt the recommendation of the District Council to establish the following regulation for the computation of traveling expenses to and from the conference:

a. Expenses of traveling by automobile are to be computed on the basis of three cents per mile per car regardless of the number of passengers in the car.

b. Expenses of traveling by train or bus are to be reported at the actual figures.

2. The District approves the donation of \$25 voted by the District Council to help finance the Dunkirk Pastor's Retreat in the summer of 1937.

3. We endorse the principles of the "Fellowship of Direct Givers"

and recommend them to our churches as a special stewardship study, and urge their being put into practice hopeful that they may bring us nearer to the solution of our financial problems.

4. We heartily welcome as guests to this conference Dr. F. A. Goetsch, the synodical representative, Dr. J. P. Meyer, the Kingdom Service Chairman, Dr. H. L. Krause of the Church of the Ascension in Pittsburgh, and Dr. Ephraim Aboosh, world traveler, and thank them for their respective contributions to our conference program.

5. We deeply appreciate the hospitality of Trinity Church, Dorseville, the pastor and his wife, and all those who in any particular way share in the entertainment of this 39th conference.

6. We assure all members of the District Council of our appreciation of their labors in the interest of our district. To the president and the secretary we grant the honorariums of \$25 each.

#### PENSION AND RELIEF

We are gratified to learn that our Synodical Pension and Relief Fund was able to continue its former service to our pensioners and trust that a possible critical condition of the fund may be averted and the fund render even more adequate help to those who need and deserve it. To that end we urge that the obligation to the Fund on the part of Eden Publishing House be met at an early date.

#### BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS

We are convinced that even though *The Messenger* is at present being published at a loss, it is very valuable and the only means at this time to unify the thinking and the Kingdom interests of the two groups that constitute our united church, and that it will do this more effectively as the content and make-up of "*The Messenger*" are made to appeal more to its readers.

#### HOME FOR THE AGED

While we regret the retirement of Sister Bena Fuchs from the matronship of the Evangelical Home for the Aged, we most heartily welcome the new matron, Sister Clara Ohlinger, and commend her and the Home with all its interests to the prayerful and Christian consideration of all Pennsylvania District churches.

#### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1. We take cognizance of the retirement of Professor William Baur from active service on the Eden Seminary Faculty and memorialize his long and faithful career as a teacher and leader. We also express the earnest hope that Professor Baur will be privileged to enjoy many years of rest and relaxation from his labors.

2. The District expresses its appreciation of the Bulletin issued by the faculty of Eden Seminary and of the fine articles contained therein, and hopes this publication will soon be on a self-supporting basis.

3. We would recommend to the pastors and lay leaders of the District that they formulate some plan in each congregation whereby they

further the payment of pledges on the Elmhurst-Eden Advance in order to save both the interest and principal.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

1. We rejoice that the budget for the contingent fund is kept at a reasonable figure and that expenses are being met.
2. We urge all pastors receiving Lenten pamphlets to pay for same in order to avoid a deficit in the expense of its publication.
3. The district requests its pastors to be conscientious in filling out the annual reports.

**GENERAL TREASURER**

We rejoice that our General Treasurer's report shows a decrease in the deficit of 1936 over that of 1935. We hope that in this coming year there will be no deficit. A vote of thanks is due our General Treasurer for his business-like report.

**DISTRICT TREASURER**

The books of the District Treasurer have been audited and found correct. He deserves the sincere thanks of the district, especially in his faithfulness and watchfulness as treasurer.

**ENDOWMENT AND TRUST FUNDS**

Although our Board for Endowment and Trust Funds had to report a loss amounting to \$2.24 on each one thousand dollars invested, we rejoice in the fact that this loss is about 100% less than the loss in 1935. Their good business judgment is shown by the yield of 3.30% paid to the various boards.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS**

1. We are deeply grateful for the manifold blessings bestowed upon our foreign mission work during the years past. The heart-warming messages of returned missionaries and encouraging reports from the Board and our efficient secretary, Dr. F. A. Goetsch, are concrete evidence of the worthwhileness of this endeavor.
2. We welcome the good news of the organization of the Board of International Missions and proposed merger of the E and R groups.
3. We desire to express our great satisfaction with the Prayer Letters and the special emphasis upon Foreign Missions during the Epiphany season.
4. It is our conviction that missionary education deserves more and more attention. Increased constructive education will minimize the need for high pressure promotion.
5. Our churches have been greatly stimulated by the splendid message from Dr. Whitcomb of Tilda Hospital. We urge the Board to continue and to increase its support of the medical branch of our work in India.
6. We commend the Evangelical Women's Union for their untiring effort on behalf of foreign missionary work and express our sincere appreciation for the special gift of \$2,591.66 toward the educational work in Mahasamund.

7. We heartily approve the growing self-support and self-government among our Indian churches.

8. We note with satisfaction the strategic emphasis upon evangelism and the special endeavors on the part of our missionaries to cooperate with the Mass Movement which is sweeping India. We also would encourage our representatives there to enter whole-heartedly into the movement for a United Church in India.

9. We rejoice over the splendid progress made in the Honduras field and especially over the organization of a new church at Puerto Cortez.

10. We find ourselves in hearty agreement with the introduction of the best and most efficient educational methods and materials in the mission schools and we commend our leaders for the efficient way in which they are conducting the educational institutions.

11. We express our sincere gratitude to Dr. F. A. Goetsch and to the members of the Board for the splendid services rendered during the past year. Our churches were helped considerably by the reports growing out of Dr. Goetsch's visitation trip to the mission fields.

#### HOME MISSIONS

1. In view of the fact that the conflict between the forces of good and evil is a continuous one, and, since it is apparent that the forces of evil are constantly gaining ground in city and country, we urge that our Home Mission work be carried on vigorously in those fields which are definitely our responsibility, even when there is no immediate hope that such work will become self-supporting.

2. We are pleased to note that the work in the Ozarks, Biloxi, Madeleine Islands, and Caroline Missions is making notable progress under the able leadership of the men and women in charge of these enterprises.

3. We appreciate the deep interest and financial support of the Women's Union toward special Home Mission projects.

4. We recommend that the Evangelical and Reformed churches in our larger cities unite their forces and carry on a unified program of city mission work among the unchurched and underprivileged.

5. We are convinced that the organization of a cooperative council of Missionary Education with a full time director, Rev. D. D. Baker, and the publication of the book "Beside All Waters" by Dr. C. E. Schaeffer, will stimulate additional interest in Home Missions.

#### CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

We commend the Church Extension Board for the wise administration of the limited funds at its disposal and trust that its resources may be increased.

#### COMMISSION ON CHRISTIANITY

1. We believe that the supreme task of the church in our age should be to preach and to teach that men must be born again. Social and economic problems can be solved only by men reborn by the power of the gospel. We believe that this generation must heed the Lord's word,

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God." To reverse that order and seek the things of this world first and expect the Kingdom of God as a by-product is disastrous to any social order. We believe furthermore, that the church must speak out boldly, as the prophets of old, against all forms of greed, injustice, exploitation and war, and lend her support and aid to arouse public opinion and the passing of such laws as will curb the greed of men.

2. We endorse the objectives of the Commission on Christian Social Action as contained in the pamphlet "Facing Our Social Responsibility."

#### FEDERATION OF EVANGELICAL CHARITIES

We urge, that for the sake of unity, all charitable institutions which have not as yet affiliated with the Federation of Evangelical Charities do so as soon as possible.

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

1. We note, as particularly significant, if not providential, that the Board of Christian Education has been successful in its initiative to merge three boards into one, thus setting the example in making a united approach to a rapidly uniting church.

2. We respectfully urge the Board of Directors and Finance Committee to earnestly pursue the policy of economy in allotting the amounts to the various operating boards of our Church. We, however, emphatically protest the unfair discrimination against the Board of Religious Education in the matter of budget allotment and demand that a revision of these figures be made upward so as to be proportionate to the allowance made to the other boards.

3. We urge the Board of Christian Education to consider seriously the appointment of a Director of Children's Work.

4. We recommend that the Kingdom Service Director cooperate to the fullest extent with the Board of Christian Education in the field of stewardship education.

#### CHURCHMEN'S BROTHERHOOD

Feeling the need of more active and complete enrolment of men in the congregational and denominational enterprises, we recommend that each pastor earnestly attempt to maintain in his church a Brotherhood organization or any other men's group which shall adequately meet the need and conditions of his local situation.

#### WOMEN'S UNION

The Pennsylvania District wishes to express deep appreciation for the loyal and devoted service of the Women's Union in local and Synodical affairs throughout these years of its existence and especially as it was revealed in the past year through the thank-offering and the gift of \$4,229.00 for Synodical Debt Liquidation.

#### DUNKIRK

Realizing the spiritual contribution which Dunkirk has made to lives of countless individuals, both old and young, and seeing the increasing need of more adequate service facilities, we urge each pastor

of the Pennsylvania District to do his full share in promoting and aiding the present expansion program.

#### OVERTURES TO GENERAL SYNOD

1. The Pennsylvania District recommends to the General Synod that Synodical Insurance be limited to church property and the property of its ministers and ministers' widows. We recommend to the General Synod that substantial uniform record books be furnished all district representatives of the Insurance Association.

2. The Pennsylvania District approves the plan of the committee on Constitution and Charter assigning that portion of our Pennsylvania District within the state of Pennsylvania to the West Pennsylvania Synod and that portion within the states of Ohio and West Virginia to the Southeastern Synod of Ohio of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and requests the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to make this division effective at the earliest time possible.

#### Special Resolution

The District Conference of the Pennsylvania District shall be held not earlier than May 15th next year.

#### Elections

*Moderator:* Rev. J. R. C. Haas.

*Vice-Moderator:* Rev. O. D. Hempelman.

*District Council:* J. R. C. Haas, President; O. D. Hempelman, Vice-President; H. Grunwald, Secretary; H. Krieg, Treasurer; Alvin J. Stoehr, Member-at-large; Herbert D. Schaefer and J. R. C. Haas, General Council Representatives.

*District Court:* C. A. Ittel, Chief Justice; F. H. Willkens, Clerk; W. J. Hausmann, John Wagner, P. E. Fraley.

*Home Mission Board:* E. H. Bassler and Ernst Lache (1943).

*Foreign Mission Board:* W. A. Bomhard (1943).

*Board of Religious Education:* H. Grunwald and Mrs. William Sachs (1943).

*Board of Examiners:* Paul Stoerker (1943).

*Pension Board:* O. W. Breuhaus (1943).

*Insurance Inspector:* Louis F. Stueber.

#### Committee Appointed

*Women's Union:* W. Bomhard and Paul Stoerker.

*Brotherhood:* C. Emigholz, G. Sennewald, Walter Kupsky.

*League:* C. A. Ittel and L. F. Stueber.

*Commission on Christianity and Social Problems:* Henry Fox, F. H. Willkens, E. H. Bassler.

#### Adjournment

After adopting the minutes the conference adjourned Monday, April 26, at 12:05 P. M.

*H. Grunwald, Secretary.*

*Approved: J. R. C. Haas, Moderator and President.*

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**48th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**SOUTH ILLINOIS DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Salem Evangelical Church, Quincy, Ill.**  
Rev. R. A. Mensendiek, Pastor

**April 20 to 23, 1937**

The Conference opened at Salem Evangelical and Reformed Church, Quincy, Ill., the Rev. R. A. Mensendiek, pastor, on Tuesday evening, April 20, 1937, at 7:30 P. M. with worship services. The Rev. E. J. Westerbeck, Columbia, preached the opening sermon on the subject: "Our Christian Life—Profession or 'Service?'" Rev. Mensendiek served at the altar. The service was enhanced by the anthems of Salem's Mixed Chorus and Quartet under the direction of Mr. Bertram S. Weber, Salem's minister of music. Mr. Frank Noelkamper, president of Salem Church, extended a hearty welcome to the conference, and Rev. A. E. Limper, president of the So. Ill. District, responded in behalf of the conference. Both St. Paul's and St. Peter's congregations joined the Salem congregation in offering their homes and courtesies to the conference.

**Addresses of the Conference**

Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D., director of Kingdom Service Work in our church addressed the conference Wednesday morning on the theme: "The Necessary is the Sacred." Rev. B. J. Koehler, Belleville, led the devotions Thursday and spoke on the theme, "The Institution Peerless, The Church—Her Character." Rev. H. Radloff, Freeburg, conducted the services Friday morning and spoke on the subject, "The Institution Peerless, The Christian Church, Her Task."

Dr. David B. Schneder, missionary and educator of Sendai, Japan, addressed the conference on the success and value of our two colleges in Japan. He traced the glorious growth of these schools from the year 1887, when he and his wife went to Japan as missionaries, to the present time, and prayed that the Christian forces in America stand by the Christian forces of Japan until various dangers are past and until Japan is further on toward the great goal of becoming a Christian nation.

Dr. F. C. Klick, president of the Synod, addressed the conference Thursday night on the subject, "The Kind of Christianity the World Needs," taking for his text, Matthew 5: 16. Rev. H. J. Bredehoeft, Edwardsville, spoke on "The Hoyleton Orphans' Home."

#### **Memorial Services and Communion**

The first conference session was opened with a Memorial Service. Rev. R. A. Mensendiek served at the altar, and Rev. E. R. Jaeger, East St. Louis, brought the message. Speaking on the text, 2 Cor. 4: 13-14 he chose as his theme, "The Resurrection, a Challenge to the Unbeliever, a Challenge to the World." In this solemn service we remembered tenderly the lives of those members of our congregations, the brethren in the ministry, and the pastors' wives who, having fought the good fight, finished the course, and kept the faith, entered into the Church Triumphant. Special tribute was paid to Rev. Eduard Schweizer, senior member of our District who entered into the rest reserved for God's people on May 19th: in his 96th year. Ninety-four members of the conference availed themselves of the opportunity to come to the Lord's Table in this service.

#### **Business**

Rev. G. Friz, Quincy, was elected moderator by acclamation, and Rev. H. H. Wintermeyer, Granite City, was elected Vice-moderator and parliamentarian by acclamation. The prepared program for the 48th South Illinois District Conference was adopted, permitting only such changes as may become necessary. The average traveling expense for the pastors and the laymen was \$3.40 and \$2.00 respectively.

#### **Admitted into Membership**

Upon recommendation of the Ministerium, two ministers, Rev. Edward H. Fresen, and Rev. Walter A. Hotz, both graduates of Eden Seminary, were accepted by the conference and formally received into the Synod by President A. E. Limper.

#### **Ministers' Meeting**

The Rev. Geo. H. Sieveking, Edwardsville, read a very thought-provoking paper in the ministers' meeting Thursday afternoon, entitled, "Since One Is Our Master, We Must Be One in Supporting His Cause."

#### **Laymen's Meeting**

In the laymen's meeting Thursday afternoon, in which Mr. John Berger, Granite City, presided, Mr. Fred Rapp, Columbia, delivered a much appreciated address on "Giving or Paying—Which?" The following resolution was adopted in the Laymen's meeting: "Whereas Brother Fred G. Rapp has for many years been an active and loyal worker in the affairs of the Church and its allied activities, and, Whereas, we, the laymen of the South Illinois District sincerely appreciate the activities

of Brother Rapp, especially the inspiring, instructive, and educational address at the Laymen's Meeting, BE IT RESOLVED: that we do hereby express our thanks to Brother Rapp for his splendid address."

### Resolutions

#### DISTRICT PRESIDENT

1. The South Illinois District is in accord with the president's message that, "We as Christian workers need always to renew the sense of our high calling within our hearts and minds, and remember that we are laborers together with God."

2. That we extend congratulations to Rev. C. F. Kniker, Ohlman, and Rev. Wm. Hosto, Smithton, who have been privileged to observe the 50th anniversary of their ordination; likewise, to congregations that can look back upon some outstanding achievement during the past year.

3. Upon the Rev. Karl Friebe, who after many years of faithful service retired from the active ministry, and upon his devoted helpmeet, the District prays God's continued blessings in the eventide of life.

4. The District pays a tribute of love and respect to the memories of those within the District who have departed this life and expresses sincere sympathy to the bereaved families.

5. We urge that such congregations within the District who are being served by our pastors and are receiving the blessings of our Christian fellowship and denominational life, seriously consider membership in the Evangelical Synod.

6. The South Illinois District accepts the invitation of the St. Paul's congregation of Nashville to hold the 1938 conference in their city.

7. We approve the appointment of the District Committee on Christianity and Social problems and recommend its continuance.

#### KINGDOM SERVICE

1. The South Illinois District urges all its congregations to strive after the 1937 goal in the synodical debt liquidation program, namely, 63% of their budget quotas.

2. The South Illinois District urges its congregations to make use of all available helps offered by the Kingdom Service, including the "Kingdom Spokesman."

3. The South Illinois District heartily endorses the efforts of the administration to balance the budget of the Synod as evidenced by the allotments to the Boards.

#### DISTRICT TREASURER, SYNODICAL TREASURER, ENDOWMENTS AND TRUST FUND, MUTUAL FIRE AND STORM ASSOCIATION

1. The District expresses its appreciation to the treasurer, Mr. Fred Rapp, for the concise report of the financial status of the District.

2. The South Illinois District highly commends the Board for Endowment and Trust Funds for the efficient manner and careful management of the funds entrusted to them and is glad to note that the income on investments has increased.

3. The South Illinois District expresses its thanks to the District Inspector, Brother Kniker, for his continued efficient service in the past year.

4. The following resolution was offered from the floor and adopted: "The South Illinois District goes on record as opposed to the plan whereby the General Synd has extended the insurance program to include the property of lay members.

#### DISTRICT AND SYNODICAL HOME MISSIONS

1. The South Illinois District notes with appreciation that our three mission churches at Murphysboro, Dupo, and Fieldon, are successfully battling forward.

2. The South Illinois District gives the District Mission Board full power to negotiate with Ridge Prairie in regard to a church there.

3. The South Illinois District concurs with the entire denomination in expressing our sorrow for the loss of so able and valiant a worker as Rev. G. A. Schmidt, Denver, Colo., Chairman of the Central Home Mission Board.

4. The South Illinois District commends the efforts of the united Church in merging overlapping mission churches in communities throughout our national parish.

5. The South Illinois District commends the quarterly distribution of Mission Tracts to all congregations since a great majority of our constituency are not readers of the Messenger.

#### PENSION AND RELIEF

1. The District appreciates the good work done by the Board of Pension and Relief for the benefit of our brothers and sisters in need of support.

2. The Women's Union deserves a vote of thanks for the designation of one-third of their Thank-Offering for the relief of our Pensioners.

3. With great gratification we read of the cottages that have been erected at Blue Springs, the generous gift of Mrs. John W. Wagner of Kansas City, Mo. and the Rev. and Mrs. P. U. Haferman. May God bless them and be their rich reward. Likewise do we desire to make honorable mention of the Brotherhoods of the West Missouri District for financing the installation of the water system in the homes at Blue Springs.

4. We wish to voice our hearty approval of the negotiations uniting the respective Pension Boards of the Reformed Church and the Evangelical Synod, anticipating a stronger Pension System in the new Church.

5. Realizing the danger of the future of the Pension Fund, involved in spending of the reserve money for pension payments, we agree with the Pension Board in its appeal to the Districts to ask the General Council to grant an increase in apportionments of the budget in 1938 for the Pension and Relief Fund.

6. Whereas ministers are not included in the Social Security Act, we recommend that congregations make their full budget payments to

strengthen the security of the Pension Fund, and that every congregation observe "Pension and Relief Sunday" as requested by the General Council.

#### SYNODICAL PRESIDENT

1. The District joins the Synodical President in emphasizing the fact that in the present turmoil and disturbances in the whole world, the Savior's words will give to the Christian light, comfort, and strength: "In the world ye have tribulation, but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world."
2. The District gratefully acknowledges the statement of an improvement of \$15,000.00 over the synodical budget of the previous year. We appeal to the honor of every pastor and congregation to raise the apportioned quota for the coming year.
3. The District recognizes the heroic efforts of Dr. J. P. Meyer to liquidate the synodical indebtedness, hoping that this campaign may be crowned with final success in the year 1937.
4. That the urgent need of our congregations in the flood area found immediate help, through the opening of the hearts and hands of Evangelical Christians, fills the District with joy.
5. The District heartily sympathizes with those into whose homes the Angel of Death has entered during the past year and implores for them the help of Him who alone can assuage sorrow and grief.

#### THE NEW CONSTITUTION

The South Illinois District approves the new constitution for the Evangelical and Reformed Church as submitted to, and accepted by, the General Synod at Ft. Wayne, Indiana, June 16th, 1936.

#### EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1. We note with satisfaction that our Seminary continues to graduate consecrated men with a scholarly and reverent approach to God, who have respect for significant interdenominational cooperation and who retain, at the same time, a deep loyalty to their own denomination.
2. As a District we go on record in recognizing the loss sustained in the passing of two esteemed members of the Elmhurst Board of Trustees, namely, Dr. W. F. Mehl, of Louisville, and Dr. H. Niefer of Milwaukee.

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

1. The South Illinois District endorses the plan of the Board of Christian Education providing a Leadership Training School for the area comprising the South Illinois, Missouri, and West Missouri Districts.
2. Be it resolved that the District Youth Committee give guidance to the Regional Round Up Committee.
3. We recommend the more widespread use of the youth study units appearing in the "Tidings" and "Messenger."
4. We recommend that the Denominational Board of Christian Edu-

cation establish a Service Library Book Depository in St. Louis which would be of considerable value in this area.

5. We commend the cooperating Council of Missionary Education for calling as director, Rev. David Baker, D.D. of Baltimore, Md., who will establish his headquarters in St. Louis, June 1, 1937.

6. We recommend support of the summer program of Leadership Training Schools and camps sponsored by the Board of Christian Education.

7. We recommend attendance at the South Illinois District Sunday School and Young People's Convention which is to be held at Millstadt, Aug. 24th and 25th.

#### EDEN PUBLISHING HOUSE

1. The South Illinois District extend congratulations to the Board of Publications of the Evangelical Synod and to the Board of Christian Education of the Reformed Church on the progress made in combining the editorial and business offices of the "Messenger," which, when accomplished, will effect a marked increase in economy and efficiency.

2. We commend them on the good work that has been done in launching the "Messenger" and urge everyone to continue giving his loyal support to our merged church paper.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS

1. The South Illinois District joins in praising the Lord who blessed the efforts of our missions in India and in Honduras.

2. We rejoice in the fact that Rev. Y. Prakash, a Hindu preacher, baptized, instructed, and trained in the ministry by our missionaries, has been appointed by the Board of Directors of our Synod, as President of the India Mission District upon the unanimous recommendation of our missionaries.

3. We appreciate the desire of the India Christians of various denominations for one strong and united Church of India, and trust that the India Christians of our India Mission District will follow the wise and foresighted leadership of our Board in the endeavor toward a united church in India.

4. The District takes notice of the introduction of coeducation in St. Paul's High School in Raipur, and hopes and prays that the results of this step will be only of a beneficial character.

5. We hope and pray that our missionaries in Honduras will overcome the sinister influences and prejudices against our church, which have arisen in Spanish speaking countries due to the civil war in Spain, and that it may come forth victoriously and stronger than ever before.

#### DISTRICT FEDERATIONS

1. The South Illinois District thanks the committees for the Women's Union and the Brotherhood for fostering and encouraging the work of their respective organizations.

2. The District feels that the women who attended the "Meditation Days" during the past year received great blessings therefrom, and

we hope that many more will avail themselves of the opportunity to attend these retreats.

### **Special Resolutions**

1. The pastors of the South Illinois District reserve the dates specified by the Illinois Church Council within the period of Nov. 1-11, 1937, for their nearest Regional or Area Preaching Mission.
2. Resolved, that the pastors and the congregations of the South Illinois District provide a more adequate program of leisure time activity for the benefit of their young people in order to save them from the dangers involved in questionable amusements.
3. Resolved, that the pastors of the South Illinois District have local working committees cooperating with their pastor on Christianity and social problems.
4. (The following resolution was offered from the floor and was adopted:) "In view of the merger, we feel justified in the expectation that the overhead expenses will be generally reduced, and we, therefore, approve of the reduced apportionment to the Board of Christian Education."

### **Elections**

President: Rev. A. E. Limper, Millstadt.

Vice-President: Rev. Aug. Warskow, Centralia.

Secretary: Rev. Wm. von Brauchitsch, Marissa.

Treasurer: Mr. Fred Rapp, Columbia.

Member at Large on District Council: Mr. H. Edwin Hoehner, Quincy.

Member on Board of Examiners: Rev. G. Friz, Quincy.

Member of Board of Home Mission: Rev. P. Brink, Red Bud, and Mr. H. Pfeifer, Mascoutah.

District Board of Foreign Mission: Rev. Theo. Beier, Breese, and Mr. Frank Bauer, Alton.

Board of Christian Education: Rev. R. Krause (1943) Nashville and Rev. R. Frankenfeld (1941) Maeystown.

District Representative on General Council: Rev. E. J. Westerbeck, Columbia, and Mr. John F. Berger, Granite City.

Fire Insurance Inspector: Rev. C. F. Kniker, Ohlman.

*Wm. von Brauchitsch, Secretary.*

MINUTES

of the

46th CONFERENCE

of the

TEXAS DISTRICT

of the

Evangelical Synod of North America  
(Evangelical and Reformed Church)

Held in

St. John's Evangelical Church, Otto, Texas

Rev. F. Anderson, Pastor

April 26 to 20, 1937

Conference Motto: "You Have Not Chosen Me, But I Have Chosen You"

Conference Hymn: "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

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Services and Devotions

The 46th District Conference of the Texas District was opened with a service on Monday evening at which Rev. Robt. Mohr conducted the altar service and Prof. John Biegeleisen preached on: "The Price of Victorious Peace." Rev. F. Anderson and Mr. Jerichow as hosts welcomed the delegates to the conference, and Rev. O. A. Meyer voiced the appreciation of the district for the welcome extended the conference.

The impressive Communion service on Tuesday morning conducted by Rev. F. C. Ruegeberg and Prof. Biegeleisen followed the Memorial service of which Rev. C. Wolff had charge. In the evening service Rev. J. J. Braun presented a Home Mission Challenge. Rev. D. Baltzer conducted the altar service.

The Wednesday evening services were under the auspices of the Emergency Peace Campaign. Rev. Bert Helm was in charge of the meeting and Bishop Clinton S. Quin was the speaker.

Prof. J. Biegeleisen led the conference in the morning meditations and also conducted devotions on: "The Master's Challenge" and "The Disciples Answer."

Addresses

"Kingdom Service Challenge"—Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D.

"The Religious Life in the Evangelical Villages Along the Volga Before the Revolution"—Rev. Alex Greeb.

## Members of the District

### PASTORS

W. Aufderhaar, San Antonio, Tex.  
F. Anderson, Mart, Texas  
A. Artus, Poth, Texas  
D. Baltzer, Houston, Texas  
H. Baur, Clifton, Texas  
H. Barnofiske, Kyle, Texas  
F. Braun, Belleville, Texas  
G. Deislinger, Yorktown, Texas  
A. Dettmann, West, Texas  
J. Dippel, San Antonio, Texas  
E. Eiben, Burton, Texas  
M. Ernst, Beasley, Texas  
A. Greeb, Riesel, Texas  
A. J. Helm, Schulenberg, Texas  
J. Jaworski, Seguin, Texas  
J. Kasiske, Manor, Texas  
R. Kalkbrenner, Ben Arnold, Tex.  
P. C. Kniker, Orange Grove, Tex.  
C. Koenig, Seguin, Texas  
R. Kuretsch, Cibolo, Texas  
O. A. Meyer, Weimar, Texas  
J. Meiller, Kurten, Texas  
L. Modschiedler, Geronimo, Tex.  
R. Mohr, Coupland, Texas  
G. Mornhinweg, New Braunfels, Texas  
C. Mueller, Corpus Christi, Tex.  
E. O. Mueller, Needville, Texas  
E. Press, San Angelo, Texas  
E. Puhlmann, Spring, Texas  
H. Rest, Lockhart, Texas  
J. Reichart, Eddy, Texas  
A. Romanowski, Rowena, Texas  
F. C. Rueggeberg, Dallas, Texas  
F. W. Schaefer, San Antonio, Tex.  
Wm. Scholze, Marlin, Texas  
E. Schwengel, Washington, Tex.  
C. Stadler, Sommerville, Texas  
J. Strauss, Waco, Texas  
R. Ulhorn, Ft. Worth, Texas  
G. Voegting, Corpus Christi, Tex.  
Th. Wobus, Houston, Texas  
C. Wolff, Waco, Texas  
J. Ziegler, Houston, Texas

### COMMISSIONED WORKERS

F. Kloppe, Thorndale, Texas Leona Poppe, Houston, Texas

### LICENSED

R. S. Allrich, Cibolo, Texas Ernie Melchert, Schulenberg, Tex.

### CONGREGATIONS

<i>Place and Church</i>	<i>Delegate</i>
Beasley, Friedens.....	Mrs. F. Gerke
Ben Arnold, Augusta	
Burlington, St. John	
Burton, St. John.....	Walter Schultz
Cibolo, St. Paul.....	Willie Krueger
Cottonwood, St. Peter	
Corpus Christi, United.....	Herb. Wittlif
Coupland, St. Peter.....	G. Hardi
Cypress, St. Luke	
Cypress, Christ.....	G. Hoffmeister
Dallas, St. Paul.....	E. Leibner
Dime Box, St. John	
Eddy (Cego), St. Paul.....	Arthur Miller
Ft. Worth, St. John	
Gerald, St. Paul.....	Gus Drews
Geronimo, Friedens.....	Mr. Zipp

Gay Hill, Friedens.....	Herman Meyer
Houston, Bethel.....	H. Butel
Houston, Christ.....	Mrs. Worthington
Houston, First Evangelical.....	F. W. Witt
Karnes City, First Evangelical	
Kurten, Zion	
Kyle, St. John.....	E. A. Wisian
Lockhart, Christ.....	W. H. Schroeder
Lyons, Immanuel	
Mt. Prairie, St. Stephens	
Mooreville, Zions	
Marion, Luth. Melch.	
Marlin, St. Paul.....	Arthur Woltmann
Needville, Immanuel.....	F. Schweltmann
New Baden, Ebenezer	
New Braunfels, First Protestant	
New Bielau, Trinity	
Otto, St. John.....	H. Fleischhaur
Orange Grove, Evang. Luth.....	George Franke
Riesel, Friedens	
Rowena, Zoar.....	Carl Straach
Robinson, St. John.....	Wm. Groppel
Richland, St. John	
San Angelo, Immanuel	
San Antonio, Community.....	Mrs. Schlunk
San Antonio, Bethany.....	H. F. Elley
Schulenburg, Evang. Luth.	
Seguin, Cross	
Sommerville (Birch), Salem	
Spring, Immanuel.....	Fred Strack
Three Oaks, Friedens	
Tynan, Friedens	
Valley Mills (Cayote), St. John.....	Wm. Mueller
Waco, Zions.....	Mrs. Hinz
West, St. Peters.....	E. Hessel
Washington, Friedens.....	F. W. Wellmann
Weimar, Evang. Luth.....	Lester Miculka
Womack, Zions.....	J. E. Helms
Woodsboro, Christ	
White Oak, St. John	
Zuehl, Redeemer.....	C. Weber

#### Committees

1. Registration, credentials, fares, excuses.  
Ministers: H. P. Baur and A. Dettman.  
Churches: Otto, Marlin, Cego.

2. District President.  
Ministers: F. W. Schaefer, J. Kasiske, A. Greeb.  
Churches: First Evang. Houston, Washington, Womack.
3. Correlation and Press.  
Ministers: F. C. Rueggeberg and W. H. Aufderhaar.  
Churches: Bethany, San Antonio, Beasley and Bethel, Houston.
4. President of Synod & Executive Secretary.  
Ministers: C. Mueller and P. C. Kniker.  
Churches: Community, San Antonio, Burton, San Angelo.
5. Auditing.  
Ministers: E. Mueller and E. Press.  
Churches: Schulenburg, Christ, Houston, Weimar.
6. Educational Institutions.  
Ministers: D. Baltzer and C. Wolff.  
Churches: Corpus Christi, Coupland, Christ, Cypress.
7. Christianity and Social Problems.  
Ministers: Bert Helm and A. Romanowski.  
Churches: Lewisville, Spring and Gay Hill.
8. Church Extension, Pension, Fire & Storm, Annuities.  
Ministers: J. Meiller, R. Uhlhorn.  
Churches: Rowena, Riesel, Karnes City.
9. Home Missions, District and Synod.  
Ministers: J. Strauss and Theo. Wobus.  
Churches: Needville, Cottonwood, Kyle.
10. Foreign Missions.  
Ministers: H. Barnofski, R. Kalkbrenner, J. Reichert.  
Churches: Orange Grove, Cibolo, Cayote, White Oak.
11. Christian Education.  
Miss Leona Poppe and Rev. Wm. E. Scholze.  
Churches: Lockhart, Woodsboro, Tynan.
12. Diakonie-Verein, Gemeindebote.  
Ministers: C. Stadler, E. Puhlmann.  
Churches: Three Oaks, Orange Grove, First, Houston, Spring Branch.
13. Elections.  
Ministers: R. Mohr, M. Ernst.  
Churches: West, Ft. Worth, Robinson.
14. Nominations.  
Ministers: E. H. Schwengel, J. Dippel.  
Churches: Waco, Dallas, Zuehl.

#### Report of the President of the District

##### Fellow Co-workers:

In the worship service planned by Moses to commemorate the passage over the Jordan, recorded in Deuteronomy 27: 11-26, the people are repeatedly exhorted to respond with an "Amen" to the recital of the law of God by the Levites. "And all the people shall say, Amen."

Moses knew from experience how difficult, yet how effective, it was to say "Amen" to God. According to the record, when the Word of God came to him to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt, he found innumerable excuses before he finally said "Amen." But when he did say, amen, his life became an effective instrument in the purposes of God and received eternal significance.

From the beginning of time the response that God has demanded of mankind has been an "Amen" to His Word; and the refusal of mankind to give that response has resulted in tragic crises in the lives of individuals and nations. Men and women who learn to say "Amen" to God find happiness and worthiness; those who refuse to say it find frustration and futility. The purpose of man is still to respond with an "Amen" to the Word of God.

The life of Jesus was the "Grand Amen," the Word became flesh, the temporal manifestation of the Eternal Word, the historic expression of the "more-than-history" God. His temporal validity and eternal significance lie in that "Grand Amen," that absolute obedience to the Word of God.

With this in mind we find it increasingly difficult to understand or appreciate the frenzied, cajoling, whining, threatening efforts, and specious arguments whereby the organized church seeks to maintain its prestige and "feather its own nest." Fortunately, God is not dependent upon the organized church for the outworking of His purposes. But the organized church is dependent upon God for its life. And unless it becomes more realistically obedient and learns to say "Amen" more sincerely to the Word of God, its oft-expressed fear of annihilation may be well founded. The fate of the organized church in Russia might well teach us that sooner or later men bury or cremate the dead.

Nor can we understand why an attempt should be made to revive the old battle between the individual and social gospel. There is neither an individual nor a social gospel. We have a gospel that proclaims to us "the word became flesh and temporarily dwelt among us." We behold a life that had become the "Grand Amen" to the Word of God, a life of worshipful service. Therefore His glory was "as the glory of the only begotten of the Father."

Saying "Amen" to God implies a life of worshipful service, with the emphasis on both the worship and the service. Neither the worship alone nor the service alone is a complete answer. May we understand that the politico-economic activity of some is worshipful service, an "Amen" to the Word of God, even as the politico-economic activity of Moses was an "Amen," and the "Here I stand. I cannot otherwise; God help me" of Luther was an amen. And may we understand further that only as our various activities, be they politico-economic or church activities, are an "Amen" to the Word of God will they have any temporal significance or eternal validity.

#### STATUS OF DISTRICT

The district numbers 59 congregations, 44 ministers, 2 student pastors, 2 commissioned workers.

#### CHANGES IN THE DISTRICT

Rev. J. Meiller to St. John's Church, Kurten, Texas.

Rev. E. Eiben from Eden Seminary to St. John's Church, Burton, Texas.

Rev. L. F. Modschiedler from Eden Seminary to Friedens Church, Geronimo, Texas.

Rev. H. Rest from Eden Seminary to Christ Church, Lockhart, Texas.

Mr. E. Melchert, student of Eden Seminary, to Schulenburg, Texas, as assistant to Rev. Bert Helm.

Mr. R. Allrich, student of Eden Seminary, to Cibolo, Texas as assistant to Rev. R. Kuretsch.

Rev. E. Berger of the Iowa District has accepted a call to New Braunfels and expects to begin his work there by May 1st.

#### TRANSFERRED TO OTHER DISTRICTS

Rev. A. Walton to Kansas District.

Rev. H. G. Borne to Southern District, effective April 15.

Rev. P. Rahmeier to West Missouri District effective May 1st.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The District council recommends for membership in the Synod the Pastors E. Eiben, L. F. Modschiedler, and H. Rest. All three are graduates of our own Eden Seminary, and at present doing fine work in their respective fields. (These three brethren were officially received at the District Conference.—Secy. note).

#### REGIONAL CONFERENCES

All four regions held their conferences in the fall of the year. The dates were coordinated in order to make it possible for Dr. T. Lehmann, President of Elmhurst College, to meet with all regions.

#### RESOLUTIONS TO THE DISTRICT

1. The San Antonio Region recommends to the Texas District the National Preaching Mission and suggests that an earnest effort be made to establish preaching centers in its confines for the inspiring work and that same become an annual affair.

2. The S. A. Region urges the Texas District to consider earnestly the introduction of holding mid-week prayer services for edification and instruction.

3. The S. A. Region recommends that Pastor's retreats become an annual affair and that the District recommend to the Promotional Committee to set aside sufficient funds from which the conductors visiting the various retreats may be re-embursed for traveling expenses.

#### PROMOTIONAL WORK

Besides speaking at all the Regional conferences last fall, Dr. T. Lehmann, President of Elmhurst College, visited a number of churches in our district.

At the present time, we understand, a tour of the Districts is being arranged by the committee for Home Missions for Rev. J. J. Braun, Executive Secretary for the Board of Home Missions.

The Elmhurst-Eden Advance recently visited our churches in a follow-up campaign and reports fine success. A report of the pledges and collections made up to January 1, 1937, is appended.

The Kingdom Service committee recommends the holding of church institutes in all our churches. The members of the committee stand ready to help arrange these institutes. Several churches have held such institutes and have found them highly educational and inspirational.

Along with other districts the Texas District cooperated in the campaign to reduce the synodical debt. Some of the churches did not carry out the recommended procedure in this campaign but carried on a basic educational campaign that was productive of healthy growth.

#### DISTRICT COUNCIL

The district council, disturbed by indifference of some pastors and lay-delegates to the district conference resolved that:

The President shall include the following resolution in his report. "All delegates and ministers shall ask for excuses from the floor before leaving any one or part of any one session of the district conference." There is, of course, no excuse for any member of the conference to loiter about the premises while the conference is in session.

#### CONSTITUTION

The new constitution of the Evangelical and Reformed Church is before you. It is to be either approved or disapproved.

#### OBJECTIVES FOR CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

The "Objectives for Christian Social Action" contained in "Facing Our Social Responsibilities" were referred back to the Districts and classes for further study and action by the last General Synod. Our district is expected to take some action on these objectives.

#### GUESTS

We shall be privileged to have as guests at our conference: Prof. J. Biegeleisen of Eden Seminary, who has been invited by the district council to conduct the devotional services; Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D., Director of Kingdom Service, who will represent the Larger Kingdom Service; Rev. J. J. Braun, Executive Secretary of Home Missions, who is doing promotional work for the Board of Home Missions; Bishop Quin of the Episcopal church, who will present the Emergency Peace Campaign. We heartily welcome these men to our conference and are assured they will make a large contribution to our conference.

#### OUR HOST

St. John's Evangelical Church, Otto, and its pastor, the Rev. F. C. Anderson, deserve our hearty thanks for the invitation to hold our conference in their midst.

#### PASTORS' RETREATS

Retreats for pastors were held in Burton and Marlin. Prof. J. Biegeleisen of Eden Seminary directed these retreats. Pastors who attended found them very much worth while and urge that they become annual affairs.

#### CHURCHMEN'S BROTHERHOOD

Rev. H. L. Streich, Executive Secretary of the Churchmen's Brotherhood, is urging a Laymen's conference in our district, or one in each region. So far it has been impossible to arrange for such a conference. We propose that the lay-delegates discuss this at their meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

O. A. Meyer, President, Texas District.

#### Treasurer's Report

July 2, 1936 to Feb. 20, 1937

Total Receipts .....	\$267.29
Disbursements .....	87.93
Balance, Feb. 20, 1937 .....	\$179.36

R. C. Malitz, Jr., Treasurer.

#### Committee on Pension and Relief

March, 1937.

To the President of the Texas District,  
Rev. O. A. Meyer, Weimar, Texas.

Dear Brother:

Of the 41 active pastors of the district 39 are members of the Pension Fund. During the year 1936, 3 of our members were pensioned: G. Deislinger, A. Walton and F. Kloppe, while 2 young brethren: Edwin Eiben and L. F. Modschiedler, joined the Fund. (Brother Rest also joined the Fund, February 1, 1937, but this belongs to the report of the next year.)

The Committee again met in its annual session with Rev. Wm. E. Scholze at St. Paul, near Marlin, January 20, 1937. All the members were present: Rev. W. Scholze, Mr. R. L. Scheef, Rev. O. A. Meyer and the undersigned. The applications were individually considered and recommendations to the Synodical Board were made.

For 1937 the following appropriations were made:

	Pension	Add.	Relief	Total
Braun, F. W. ....	\$350.00	\$20.00		\$370.00
Deislinger, G. ....	227.50			227.50
Jaworski, J. ....	275.00	7.00		282.00
Dyck, Mrs. P. Van ....	264.00	13.60		277.60
Kniker, Mrs. N. ....	280.00	20.80		300.80
Kurz, Mrs. M. ....	280.00	24.80		304.80
Ludwig, Mrs. H. ....	178.00	7.20		185.20

Neuhaus, Mrs. M. ....	168.00	17.60	185.60
Kloppe, F. ....	265.00	20.00	300.00
Voegting, G. ....	232.50	16.00	300.00
Schlunk, Mrs. B. ....	160.00	14.40	250.00
Schulz, H. (special) ....			120.00
Jud, Mrs. A. (special) ....			180.00

*A. Romanowski, Chairman.*

### Gemeindebotebericht

Der Gemeindebote wird in 1100 Exemplaren gedruckt. Bestellt und bezahlt sind 349 Expl. @ 30c in Paketen (\$104.70) und 614 Expl. @ 40c per Post versandt (\$245.60) sowie 28 Anzeigen (\$94.50) zusammen \$444.80. Verschiedene unserer werten Kollektanten sowie die Emeriti erhalten 18 Expl. frei.

Durch die Ermaeszigung der Haltegebuehr und die freien Exemplare hat die Gemeindebotenkasse rund \$105 eingebueszt. Acht Expl. sind bereits fuer 1938 und 1 Expl. bis Juli 1939 bezahlt. Alles ist bezahlt einschlieslich der Maerznummer. In der Kasse sind \$474.55, obwohl 7 Ausgaben in Kleindruck erschienen, was per Ausgabe rund \$7 verursachte. Weil die Kasse sich im guten Zustand befindet, und ich treu meinem Vorsatz die Arbeit gratis verrichte, wuerde ich gern sehen, wenn die Konferenz dieses Jahr \$40 der Distriktskasse, \$25 der Diakonievereinskasse und \$10 fuer Innere Mission im Distrikt ueberweisen wuerde. Von Mitte April 1936 bis Mitte Maerz 1937 habe ich im Interesse des Gemeindeboten 245 Briefe und Postkarten geschrieben und Extra-Exemplare unter Kreuzband versandt.

Allen lieben Amtsbruedern, Abonnenten, Anzeigegebern und Korrespondenten, die unser Distriktsorgan treu unterstuetzt haben, gebuehrt unser aller herzlicher Dank.

Der Gemeindebote wachse, blueme and gedeihe unerschrocken und unerschuetterlich im Dienste des Herrn und des lieben Texas-Distrikts! Dies ist mein Wunsch und Gebet.

*J. Jaworski.*

### Ev. Diakonie in Texas

Im Gleichnis vom barmherzigen Samariter (Luc. 10, 30-37) will der Heiland sagen, dasz unser Naechster jeder Mensch ist, der durch seine Not uns und unserer Barmherzigkeit nahe gebracht wird. Als wir Kinder waren, hat unser Groszmuetterchen und Muetterchen uns immer daran erinnert, dasz wir am juengsten Gerichte nicht werden bestehen koennen, wenn wir nicht den Geringsten behandelt haben, als sei er der Heiland selbst. Graut uns nicht vor Christi Richterstuhle, wenn wir an unsere Naechsten im Altenheim denken?

Selig die Herzen, die sich an Jesu Herzen immer wieder waermen lassen zur rechten Samariter-Barmherzigkeit. Der mir resp. dem Komitee aus Laienbruedern (den Herren E. G. Hudel, C. W. Pfluger und W. F. Puls) bestehend von der letztaehrigen Konferenz gegebene

Auftrag unsfern Gemeinden die Lage des Altenheims nahezubringen, wurde nach gruendlicher Erwaegung im Herbst 1936 nicht ausgefuehrt, aus dem einfachen Grunde, weil doch fuer die Schuldentilgung der Synode mit Nachdruck gearbeitet wurde und wir das Sammeln fuer den Zweck mit unserem Kommen nicht hemmen wollten. Zwei "Drives" waeren meiner und des Komitees Meinung nach entschieden zu viel. Doch "aufgeschoben ist nicht aufgehoben"! Darum wuerde ich warm empfehlen und bitten, dasz demselben Komitee der Appell an die Gemeinden unser Altenheim betreffend fuer diesen Herbst ueberwiesen wuerde.

Die Glieder des Diakonievereins wurden durch die im Gemeindeboten erscheinenden Berichte auch in diesem Jahr ueber die Freuden und Leiden unserer Anstalten auf dem Laufenden gehalten. Zwei erfreuliche Nachrichten waeren hervorzuheben: 1. Im Lokalblatt der Ersten Ev. Gemeinde zu Houston finde ich, dasz womoeglich jedes Glied des Frauenvereins (ausser dem besondern vierteljaehrlichen Opfer) einen Dollar jaehrlich fuer unsere Anstalt in San Antonio aufbringen soll: 2. Im Lokalverein von Rowena wurde durch Beschluss empfohlen, dasz jede Familie wenigstens ein Glied fuer den Diakonieverein liefere. Zur Nachahmung waermstens empfohlen!

Die Finanzen des Altenheims kommen, wenn auch langsam, in geordnetere Bahnen. Die Finanzbehoerde ist nun mit den Problemen vertraut und arbeitet fein.

Leider muszten ausser den ueblichen 5% noch extra 3½% vom Generalfonds fuer die Hauskasse des Altenheims verwendet werden, weil von den Diakonievereinen und durch die Kollekten nicht genug einkam und hauptsaechlich weil die durch Herrn C. A. Goeth angelegten Gelder nicht all die Zinsen einbrachten. Die selig entschlafene Frau Johanna Ullbricht aus Dallas hat unseren Anstalten \$1000 vermaecht. Off. Joh. 14, 13. Wir stehen vor einer grossen Geldauslage. Der aussenstehende Speisesaal, das Waschhaus und die Stallungen muessen neu errichtet werden. Weil es permanente Verbesserungen sind, hoffen wir von den Schmidtschen Trustees, wenn nicht alles, so doch ein gut Teil fuer die Auslagen zu erhalten.

Ich schliesse mit Hebbels schoenen Worten vom Wohltun: "Der Wohltaeter soll erkennen, dasz Gott ihm gnaedig das froehliche Geben und dem Bruder das harte Nehmen zuteilte."

Achtungsvoll unterbreitet,

*J. Jaworski.*

**Annual Report of the Texas District Inspector for the  
Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Association**

To the Rev. O. A. Meyer, President of the Texas District:

Statistical Report for 1936:

59 A Policies .....	\$248,751.00
26 AC " .....	145,890.00
23 AD " .....	57,214.00
1 ADF " .....	1,465.00
2 AD-H " .....	5,665.00
<hr/>	
111 A, AC, AD-H, ADF (Totals) .....	\$458,985.00
43 B Policies .....	\$ 71,170.00
154 A, AC, AD-H, ADF, B (Totals) .....	\$530,155.00
16th Assessment .....	\$ 719.72
Loss: John Link Estate .....	\$ 45.00
Gain in number of "A" Series .....	2
Gain in number of "B" Series .....	1
Loss in amount of Insurance under "A" Series .....	\$29,622.00
Loss in amount of Insurance under "B" Series .....	\$ 2,220.00

*Remarks:* Our total insurance in force in the Texas District has decreased, but the number of policies have increased. This is due to more conservative valuations, and lower maximums set by the Association. The result is favorable, because it means greater diversification and a wider spread of risks.

Almost every renewal during 1936, resulted in a lowering of the amount of insurance. Thus the decrease in amount of insurance in force in our District.

The Association is now fully prepared to insure dwellings and household goods of members of our congregations. All farm buildings and farm equipment are included. Rates and information on request.

Four years ago the Association wrote three types of policies and had three different rates. Today there are 7 types of policies available, under 56 different rates. The rates vary according to construction and location of property.

The relationship of the Inspector to the Association, and the congregations, and their members, has been agreeable and pleasant at all times. For this the inspector is very grateful.

Respectively submitted,  
*E. H. Schwengel.*

**Board of Christian Education**

To the District President, Rev. O. A. Meyer:

It is with a sincere sense of gratitude to God and to all others who made ten years of successful E. L. T. S. work possible that we note the largest attendance (79) at last year's Tenth Anniversary Lone

Star School. Each year the attendance and quality of work has increased, which is an evidence that it is meeting a need among Texas S. S. and Y. P. L. workers. We again call attention to the E. L. T. S. of this year which will be in session from June 14-25, hoping that this year the long awaited goal of 100 students may be realized.

The Y. P. L. and S. S. Convention, in session at Marlin, Texas, July 27-29, had an attendance of 175 interested young people and church workers. The various sessions of the Convention dealing with aspects of the theme, "The Christian in Action," were stimulating and challenging.

We were happy to have a representative of the Texas young people in attendance at the Youth Convention at Lakeside, last June, and wish to call attention to the challenging program of this summer's Lakeside conference for Evangelical and Reformed young people. The Board would urge every church to make every possible attempt to send some young person to this conference June 28-July 1.

We are happy to report that a number of Church Worker's Institutes have made considerable contributions in their communities, and that several successful Daily Vacation Schools were also conducted. The regional federations have sought to meet local needs. In the Houston Region the second Intermediate Boys' and Girls' camp was enthusiastically supported. The work of Christian Education has also been stressed at Regional Conferences.

*M. Ernst, Chairman.*

#### **Report of the Texas Committee on Christian Social Action**

To the Rev. O. A. Meyer, President of the Texas District:

During 1936 an exhibit of books and pamphlets on social problems was furnished at the District Conference and at the S. S. and League Convention. Dozens of pieces of literature were sold.

It will be well for us to keep in mind that the 1936 Conference contributed fifty dollars to the Cooperative Farm in Mississippi.

In the fall, a group of ministers were invited to contribute to the expense of the Rev. O. A. Meyer and the Rev. Bert Helm, for their trip to Columbus, Ohio, to attend the National Conference for Christian Democracy. The following contributed a total of twelve dollars: Ernst Press, H. G. Borne, Martin Ernst, and E. H. Schwengel. The men who made the trip and those who contributed kept our District in touch with this development of social importance.

Due to the fact that those in our District, working for the Child Labor Amendment, often are handicapped by being classed with those Lutheran groups, who oppose the amendment, our District should go on record as favoring it.

We will do well to remember that the student workers of the Emergency Peace Campaign, working in Texas in 1936, found our District

to be one of their most responsive groups. The Campaign has been well geared into our work, in many congregations, as the District recommended.

Respectfully submitted,  
E. H. Schwengel, Chairman.

### Report of the Texas District Mission Board for 1936

To the Reverend Otto A. Meyer, President:

In the great commission of the church there is one word which we dare not loose sight of in these perplexing days. In giving His Church marching orders our Lord and Master promised to be with His followers as they went to overcome the world. As a denomination we also have a responsibility to the great other half of our population, which is nominally not in touch with the Church. Let us not feel powerless as we face this tremendous challenge and let us not grow faint as we fail to see noticeable effects of our work in sowing the good seed. On the contrary let us ask the Lord to send us the fullest measure of His Spirit and give us the will to look aside of all other things and serve Him alone.

In summing up for the year after allowing the reports from the individual congregations to speak we are sure that some real progress was made. In several cases it has been very encouraging. Many factors could be cited to show why greater progress was not made. Human nature is prone to alibi especially when so many and varied factors play into our daily lives. The life of a church is affected similarly. Poor crops, low prices of all commodities, high taxes, mounting cost of living, low wages, important financial obligations, we could go on ad finitum, are some of the material considerations that enter in. The great question is how far should they enter in and stand between us and our spiritual life. Are we not at times tempted to enlarge their importance and forget the main issues of life?

Your Board transacted its business in two meetings held during the year, one at the occasion of the annual District Conference and the other in November in Houston. All other matters were disposed of by correspondence. A number of our mission fields were visited and we are sorry that such visits cannot be held oftener. A fine spirit of service is manifested by all workers in the field. The year was free of long vacancies and ended with all fields fully manned. We are submitting a few remarks in the following referring to each separate field omitting all other statistics. 1. and 2. *Salem, Birch and St. John, Dime Box*, Rev. C. Stadler. Poor crops and low prices have hampered both churches financially. The work there is carried on by the Pastor with great loyalty and devotion. The illness of the Pastor's wife has made his work even more difficult. This field together with Lyons and Md. Prairie, where Brother E. Schwengel goes to preach, is really a "special Home Mission project." Serving Dime Box is rather difficult due to poor roads and its own overchurched situation.

3. and 4. *United Evang., Corpus Christi and Christ, Woodsboro*, Rev. C. Mueller. Corpus Christi is enjoying somewhat of a business boom. Some fine progress has also been reported in our mission. A Fund has been started to add a Sunday School addition to the church. At Woodsboro a crop failure hampered somewhat financially. This very promising field however should have a resident pastor as soon as possible.

5. *Christ Evang., Houston*. Rev. Paul Rahmeier. Another year of steady progress can be recorded with the church meeting all obligations and showing a membership gain of 22. Our great regret is the fact that the present pastor has resigned here and is leaving the field shortly to transfer to the West Missouri District.

6. *Christ, Lockhart*. Rev. Henry Rest. From February to Mid-June Mr. Hans Mueller of Eden Theological Seminary served this church in a very acceptable way paving the way for the new pastor who then followed in August. Brother Kuretsch did supply work in a very fine manner during the interim. Brother Rest has taken hold of matters in a most energetic and capable manner and is seeking to lay some very essential ground work, which together with the Lord's blessing should finally bring this congregation into its rightful own.

7. and 8. *Evang. Luther, Orange Grove and Friedens, Tynan*. Rev. Paul Kniker. Discouraging economic conditions have hampered the financial part of the work in these two churches. Brother Kniker is doing his work in all faithfulness and reports greater interest and co-operation in all branches of his program at both places. We hope that the churches themselves will also come to better days in supporting the work financially.

9. *Friedens, Riesel*. Rev. Alexander Greeb. There are no marked changes to report here for the year. The church as such has tried to realize its obligations to its own program as well as to that of the denomination.

10. *Immanuel, San Angelo*. Rev. Ernst Press. Slow steady uphill work would perhaps best characterize the work being done at Immanuel. The church met all financial obligations and is now free of debt and is raising more for salary for the new year.

11. *Bethany, San Antonio*. Rev. F. W. Schaefer. Under this new and most appropriate name Bethany Church has completed another year of healthy growth and progress. All financial obligations were met and in January of the year a very successful Church Building Campaign was undertaken for the purpose of erecting the greatly needed super-structure. Bethany Church is solving her problems one after the other and can now go ahead with the building program.

12. *Community, San Antonio*. Rev. W. H. Aufderhaar. Another fine growth in membership is reported for Community Church and with better earning conditions the financial ability for this promising church should also increase. Some very greatly needed repairs on the church building were made during the year. All other financial obligations

were met during the year and with a continuance of the present growth this church should make rapid strides toward self-sustenance within the next few years.

13. *First Evang., Karnes City.* (New Bremen) Rev. W. H. Aufderhaar. We are again greatly indebted to the Rev. Aufderhaar for continuing to look after the needs of this rural field so far removed from San Antonio. Your board has not given up hopes of placing a resident pastor here to care for this field in conjunction with the field at Three Oaks.

14. *Friedens, Three Oaks.* Rev. August Artus. There have been no marked changes in the work in this field. In fact lack of reports make it impossible to make any accurate statement.

15. and 15. *Immanuel, Spring and Christ, Cypress.* Rev. E. F. Puhlmann. Another year of steady growth and progress can be recorded for Spring. The present indebtedness has been reduced to a small amount and plans are now being discussed for the erection of a greatly needed Educational Building. At Cypress no definite changes have taken place during the year. The lack of growth may be attributed to peculiar local surroundings as the work is done in all faithfulness.

The following table shows how long each mission church has been supported, including the total amount of support from the Central Board, as well as how much each church raised for the year and received from the Central Board for Home Missions.

<i>Supported</i>			
<i>Church</i>	<i>Since</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Church-1936-Board</i>
Salem, Birch .....	1930	\$ 1,651.32	\$ 300.00      \$ 200.00
St. John, Dime Box.....	1927	2,568.28	150.00      100.00
United, Corpus Christi.....	1932	1,797.55	540.00      360.00
Christ, Woodsboro .....	1923	~ 2,522.90	300.00      200.00
Christ, Houston .....	1924	15,110.52	1,020.00      375.00
Christ, Lockhart .....	1929	1,925.50	400.00      322.50
Luther, Orange Grove .....	1917	6,650.61	250.00      460.00
Friedens, Tynan .....	1917	5,553.53	160.00      430.00
Friedens, Riesel .....	1931	1,939.10	600.00      350.00
Immanuel, San Angelo ....	1929	4,241.04	480.00      618.00
Bethany, San Antonio.....	1934	3,933.46	600.00      1,020.00
Community, San Antonio...	1926	13,579.00	600.00      1,230.00
First, Karnes City.....	1928	1,901.65	120.00      120.00
Friedens, Three Oaks.....	1927	7,572.00	200.00      816.00
Immanuel, Spring .....	1916	7,413.01	550.00      78.00
Christ, Cypress .....	1929	2,435.32	350.00      325.00
			<hr/>
		\$5,620.00	\$7,004.50

The above figures reveal that the denomination through its Central Board for Home Missions has given for Home Missions alone in our district the sum of \$7,004.50 and according to figures released by the

Treasurer of the Synod we have given for the larger Kingdom Work of the denomination the sum of \$6,683.68. Not a very favorable comparison for our district. We urge every Home Mission Church to do its very best during the year in giving for the larger Kingdom work of the Synod. May the Spirit of the Lord lead us and guide us in all our efforts to build His Kingdom.

Respectfully submitted,  
*D. Baltzer, Chairman.*

### Resolutions

In those churches not represented by delegates at the District Conference the following resolution shall be read: "More sincere efforts shall be exercised in electing and sending a delegate to the District Conference."

The Texas District authorizes the Board of Directors of the Eden Evangelical Home for the Aged to construct the necessary new barn and also a new building to be used as laundry and auditorium on the grounds of the Home and they are further authorized to ask the trustees of the Martin Schmidt Fund for an appropriation of \$5,000.00 to be used for this purpose.—The Secy. is to mail a copy of this resolution to C. A. Goeth at San Antonio, Texas.

The Texas District invites most cordially every non-synodical congregation now being served by Pastors of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to become members of the Synod at the earliest possible time.

The next Conference shall take cognizance of the 50th Anniversary of the Texas District.

The Texas District requests the editors of the Messenger of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to discontinue the department of church news.

The President shall appoint a committee to prepare a digest of the proceedings of the Conference and mail same to all churches, pastors and delegates. (Schaefer, Rest and Modschiedler were appointed).

An offering shall be received and given to the Heffelfinger family which lost their home by fire, during the Conference. (\$31.20 were received, Secy's note.)

A motion was made (by Mr. R. C. Scheef) and seconded (by Mr. F. W. Witt) that the representatives of the churches make every effort to organize Brotherhood Federations in their respective Regions. It carried.

The Texas District notes the hopeful sign evident in present-day church life of the awakening of a new kind of appreciation for theology, the deep thoughts of God and is confident that this awakening of interest is a vital force in the life of our seminary.

Since practical experience is one of the finest means of training for the ministry, the Texas District recognizes the great value of the comprehensive program for Field Work now being developed at our Eden Seminary.

The Texas District encourages the faculty to continue the publishing of the Bulletin in its present form.

The Texas District rejoices over the normal development of Elmhurst College and hopes that the Elmhurst-Eden Advance can be completed at an early date, so that the necessary new buildings can be erected.

The Texas District greets the ever increasing blessings of the Church Extension Fund, The Pension and Relief, and the Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance with growing admiration, sees in them monuments of practical creative Christianity and wishes to assure the respective officers of these organizations, both at Synodical headquarters and in the District, of its high appreciation of their faithful and efficient service.

The Texas District requests that the Finance Committee of the General Council grant the Board of Pension and Relief an increase of not less than \$10,000 in the paying basis of the budget for 1938.

We agree with the President of the District: a) That man will find his happiness and his true worthiness only when he gives his amen to the word of God through sacrificial service, b) that the organized church must seek the purpose of God upon whom she is dependent for her life, rather than "feather her own nest."

The Texas District endorses the resolutions of the San Antonio Region as printed in the Report. Preaching Mission, mid-week prayer service, Pastors' retreat.

The Texas District, believing that the very life of the organized church depends upon its ability to express its faith and realize its objectives through the medium of concrete social patterns, most heartily indorse the report of the joint committee on social actions of the E. & R. Church, as summarized in the conclusion of their report.

The Texas District authorizes its committee on social actions to set up an institute on social actions, this institute to be of three days duration. The dates to be set at the discretion of the committee.

Resolved that all pastors and delegates urge the members of their respective congregations to join or organize a Diakonie Verein. Furthermore to urge every member (not a part of such an organization) to lend his whole hearted support to the Benevolent Institutions of our Districts.

PRESIDENT OF SYNOD

Giving God all the Glory, the Texas District rejoices with the President of the Synod in the rich spiritual harvest of the Preaching Mission, under the direction of the Federal Council, and is thankful that so many people could be reached.

The Texas District promises its cooperation in the continuation of the Preaching Mission this year in those localities yet untouched and that the emphasis will be placed on meetings with the Youth on those estranged from the church, and on those as yet outside of the church.

The Texas District agrees with the President of the Evangelical Synod of North America that nothing but the positive teachings of Christ are able to solve the complicated problems of our social and economic life.

With its President, the Texas District feels the need of sincere repentance, of earnestness and devotion to the extent of self-forgetfulness, and a fuller consecration of the ministers and the laymen to the Master's cause.

The Texas District approves the creation of the proposed new Texas Area, which includes the present Texas and the Southern District.

The Texas District approves the new Constitution adopted by the General Synod Meeting in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The Texas District rejoices in the progress made in the merger of certain boards in the United Church, and urges other Boards to merge as soon as possible.

The Texas District again reminds every congregation that the Church can only carry on its work if the Synodical Budget is raised.

The Texas District remembers gratefully all its pastors, pastor widows and lay-members called home during the last year.

#### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Texas District heartily endorses Kingdom Service institutes.

The Texas District recommends the general use of the literature like the Lenten Pamphlet and the "New Church News."

The Texas District agrees with the Executive Secretary that the statistics should be made on a common, general recognized basis.

The Texas District urges all congregations to pay their contingent fund quota.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS

The Texas District is fully aware of the fact that we live in a time of universal transition and unrest and we pray our Father in Heaven that He may strengthen the hearts of our missionaries and give them wisdom and faith to help them solve the great problems of the mission fields. We are convinced that only the gospel of Jesus Christ will bring enlightenment and peace to the people in this great crisis.

The Texas District asks all members of its congregations to support, to the best of their ability, with their prayers and gifts, the work of our Medical Missions in India and Honduras.

The Texas District recognizes the fact that the Board of Foreign Missions efficiently guided the work in spite of many difficulties and shortages of funds, and urges all churches to raise their full budget quotas, and also generously designate additional gifts for this noble work.

The Texas District thanks the Women's Union for the liberal help in furthering special missionary enterprises.

The Texas District appreciates the information which has come to us through the visit of our Executive Secretary, Dr. Goetsch, to the

mission fields of our merged church, and hopes that this added information will stimulate a greater interest in this phase of kingdom work.

The Texas District stands with the Synodical Board for Home Missions in the belief that only as we ourselves have been enriched and blessed spiritually through Jesus Christ, it becomes clear to us that our concern for national and world recovery must necessarily take on the deeper and more passionate form of a concern for the salvation of the whole world.

We rejoice that by the grace of God and the loyalty of mission workers and congregations encouraging progress is reported from District and Synodical Mission fields. We encourage our District Board and our workers to carry on, at the same time urging all our congregations to contribute more liberally, so that this work may prosper to the glory of God and the salvation of many souls.

The Texas District urges all its congregations now supplied by Mission funds to become self-sustaining as soon as possible so that those funds can be applied in new mission fields.

We urge all congregations of the Texas District to note that during 1936' District Mission churches have again received more money from the Central Home Mission Board Treasury than all the congregations of our district gave toward the Synodical budget and that this should be an incentive to us to raise our full budget quotas.

The Texas District appreciates the presence at our Conference, of the Executive Secretary of the Central Board for Home Missions, Rev. J. J. Braun and the National Kingdom Service Director, Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D. and expresses its sincere thanks for the worthwhile contribution they have brought to our program.

The Texas District owes a debt of gratitude to Professor John Biegeleisen for his spiritual help to our pastors in leading them in their retreats last autumn as well as for the high character of his devotional leadership during this conference.

The Texas District is genuinely thankful for the efficient and sincere services rendered by its officers during the past term.

The Texas District, in recognition of the great demands made upon the strength and time of our President, Secretary and Treasurer, in fulfilling their respective offices, votes a gratification of \$50.00 to the President and \$25.00 each to the Secretary and Treasurer.

The Texas District acknowledges with sincere thanks the cordial welcome and splendid hospitality accorded the members and visitors of our Conference by Rev. F. C. Anderson and the Congregation of St. John's Evangelical Church of Otto, and instructs its President to convey this vote of thanks to our congenial hosts.

The Texas District expresses its appreciation for the services of the custodian of St. John's Church, Mrs. Anna Zost, by voting her a gratification of \$7.50.

Resolved—The Texas District resolves that the secretaries of all the congregations in the District submit to the Supt. of the Eden Ev. Home for the Aged a membership list of the members together with their addresses with the view of contacting our people individually by mail to acquaint them with our work and to present the needs of the Home from time to time.

Resolved—The Texas District expresses sincere thanks and appreciation to the officers of the Diakonie Verein for their interest, effort and work which were so clearly manifested in this benevolent cause.

Gemeindebote—The District thanks the editor of the Gemeindebote for his faithful work in boosting its circulation. All the profits are donated by him: \$40 to the District Treasury, \$25 to the Diakonie Verein, \$10 for Home Mission work. The District appreciates this publication, as well as the donations.

Regarding District Board:

We recognize with gratitude the success of the 10th Anniversary of our Lone Star School and urge all congregations of our District to make special efforts to promote interest and attendance at this year's school, June 14-25.

We agree with the Board of Christian Education that every church should make every possible attempt to send some one to the National Christian Education Conference at Lakeside, Ohio.

We feel we cannot too highly recommend more Church Institutes throughout the Texas District.

Regarding National Board:

We rejoice in the fact of the merged Board of Christian Education of our united church and trust that it may go forward in building a unified program.

We rejoice that progress has been made toward correlating the Christian education program so as to include children, youth and adults, and we urge the Texas District to give the Board of Christian Education its wholehearted support in this venture.

The Texas District realizes the great need of field-workers on Christian Education and trust that the National Board may soon find ways and means of securing some.

We are happy over the recent establishment of the cooperative council on Missionary education.

The District believing that Christian Education is most vital in our church, be it resolved that the District petition the General Synod for a full and fair apportionment of the regular synodical budget to the Board of Christian Education.

We recommend that there be a closer relation between the Board of Christian Education and the Kingdom Service Committee.

## **Elections**

*Moderator:* O. A. Meyer.

*Vice-Moderator:* C. Wolff.

*President:* O. A. Meyer.

*Vice-President:* C. Wolff.

*Secretary:* R. F. Kuretsch.

*Treasurer:* H. F. Elley.

*Minister at Large on District Council:* E. Schwengel.

*Layman on District Council (6 years):* Ed. Winkelmann.

*District Representative to General Council:* O. A. Meyer.

*Layman to General Council:* Herm. Beutel.

*Board of Christian Education:* Rev. Ernst Press (Unexpired term), Rev. F. Schaefer, Miss Maria Helland.

*District Home Mission Board:* Rev. E. O. Mueller, Mr. G. Hardi.

*District Counsellor:* Leon Jaworski.

*District Court:* Rev. J. Strauss, Rev. A. Romanowski, Rev. F. C. Anderson, Mr. I. H. Blume, Mr. Chas. Straach.

*District Trustees:* Rev. D. Baltzer, Mr. R. L. Scheef, Mr. R. C. Malitz.

*District Board of Foreign Missions:* Mr. Walter Schulz.

*District Board of Examiners:* Unexpired term, Rev. W. H. Aufderhaar; Expired term, Rev. Robt. Mohr.

*Robinson Academy Caretaker:* Rev. J. Strauss.

*Schmidschen Trustees:* Rev. W. H. Aufderhaar.

*District Inspector:* Rev. E. H. Schwengel.

*Gemeindebote Editor:* Rev. J. Jaworski.

## **1938 Conference**

It was voted to accept the invitation to hold the Special Conference of 1938 in the Redeemer Evangelical Church at Zuehl, Texas, Rev. R. F. Kuretsch, Pastor.

## **Adjournment**

After the minutes of the Conference were read and adopted the Conference adjourned.

*R. F. Kuretsch, Secretary.*

*O. A. Meyer, President and Moderator.*

**M I N U T E S**  
of the  
**45th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**WEST MISSOURI DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**St. Paul's Evangelical Church, Blackburn, Mo.**  
Rev. W. Sabbert, Pastor  
**April 20 to 22, 1937**

The 45th conference of the West Missouri District was opened with a service of divine worship at 9:30 A. M. on April 20th, 1937. The service was in charge of the Rev. Mr. J. Hauck. The Communion meditation was delivered by the Rev. Mr. A. Schulz, in which he stressed the fellowship with one another, with Christ and with God. After this service the various committees began their work. In the evening service at 8 P. M. the Honorable 1st Vice-President of the Synod, Dr. Paul Press, brought the message and the Rev. Mr. W. Sabbert conducted the liturgical service and extended the welcome of St. Paul's Church. In the closing service of the conference on Wednesday evening the Rev. Mr. E. F. Abele delivered the message and the Rev. Mr. O. J. Rumpf served at the altar. The devotional meetings of the conference were conducted by the Rev. Mr. W. F. Esser. The Rev. Mr. C. Schwantes conducted the Memorial Service at which time the Rev. Mr. E. Beissenherz paid a tribute to our departed members.

The business of the conference was transacted in four general sessions and one session of the Ministerium and of the lay representatives. The Rev. J. C. Bierbaum was elected Moderator and the Rev. Theo. Hauck was elected Vice-moderator. The Rev. Mr. Elmer Ansley and the Rev. Mr. F. C. Allrich were received into membership of the Evangelical Synod.

The conference considered the various Synodical and District reports. Some of the resolutions of general interest follow. The following resolutions were adopted, based on the District reports:

We agree with our worthy President that we need a ministry deeply saturated with the spirit of Christ, and pray that this may be the distinguished characteristic of the ministrations of the gospel.

The West Missouri District authorizes the District Brotherhood Federation to contact every congregation in the District, to raise funds for the water works installed at the Blue Springs Pastor's Home.

The West Missouri District conference recommends that two delegates be sent from the District Y. P. and S. S. Convention to the National Conference on Christian Education, June 28-July 1. The expense to be borne by Y. P. District treasury to the extent of \$50.00.

We take pleasure in commanding the congregations of our District which during the past year raised their quota in full. We sincerely hope that those who failed in this respect had a good reason and not merely an excuse.

We are of the opinion that the synodical indebtedness should be wiped out at the earliest possible moment. Therefore we request each congregation to raise the balance of the amount representing 63% of its synodical quota before the end of the current year if possible.

Resolution from the laymen's meeting: We as laymen agree, that in the financing of our church, both local and at large, we have an obligation which should take first place in our lives and that the raising of funds for this work should not be left as a responsibility for our pastors to shoulder.

#### **Resolutions on Synodical Reports**

The West Missouri District approves the Constitution adopted by the General Synod at Ft. Wayne, Ind., June 16, 1936.

The West Missouri District recommends that the geographical area of the new Synod of which it would be a part, shall include the present West Missouri District, the eastern portion of the present Nebraska and Kansas Districts together with the Reformed churches now in that area.

The West Missouri District takes cognizance of the report of the General Treasurer and assures him of its appreciation of his earnest and painstaking labor.

The West Missouri District is pleased with the enlistment of Miss Helen Mueller in Foreign Mission work and wishes her God's blessing in her work.

The West Missouri District requests the F. M. B. to send to the U. S. from foreign fields for our education and enlightenment, Christian converts, like T. Z. Koo, who have a Christianity unadulterated by a culture in which race prejudice and capitalistic expediency have priority over the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We appreciate the arrangement in the interest of efficient service to our entire constituency, that the Board of Christian Education maintains offices both at St. Louis and Philadelphia, an arrangement satisfactory to both the eastern and western constituents.

We are in perfect accord with the basic principles of National Mission Work as set forth by the Executive Secretary of our Board.

We believe that the work in the Ozarks, Biloxi and Madeline Island Missions, meets a great need of the people, and that the organizations and people who have contributed to this work are to be commended.

The West Missouri District registers its protest, along with the

National Board of Christian Education, against the disproportional reductions made in appropriations to the Board of C. E.

The West Missouri District expresses its gratification that two cottages could be built at Blue Springs Pastor's Home. It expresses special thanks to Mrs. J. W. Wagner of Kansas City for her gift in the form of the Memorial Cottage in memory of her former pastor the Rev. John Sauer. The District feels that this is a noble example and trusts that others may follow her example.

Inasmuch as it will be necessary to either use reserve funds or reduce pensions, the West Missouri District requests the finance committee of the General Council to increase its Budget appropriation to the Pension Board by at least \$10,000.00.

#### ELECTIONS

President: Rev. Theo. Hauck.

Vice-President: Rev. F. Stoerker.

Secretary: Rev. O. J. Rumpf.

Treasurer: Mr. L. Boeger.

District Council Member: Mr. W. G. Heidbreder.

Member of General Council: Rev. P. Niedermeyer, Mr. A. T. Loewer.

District Court: Rev. N. Lehmann, Rev. J. Abele, Rev. J. Hauck, Mr.

A. F. Oberhellmann, Mr. Dan. Holke.

Home Mission Board: Rev. A. C. Kniker, Mr. Chris. Drewel.

Foreign Mission Board: Rev. C. Schmidt, Rev. O. Schroedel.

Board of Religious Education: Rev. C. Grathwohl, Mrs. E. W. Argo.

Pension Board: Mr. W. H. Buschmeyer.

A very pleasant and helpful conference was closed at 12:30 P. M., Thursday, April 22, by a prayer by Rev. S. P. Bittner. The pastor and members of St. Paul Church had succeeded in making the days of being in their midst as guests pleasant ones.

Respectfully submitted,

*J. C. Bierbaum*, Moderator and President.

*E. F. Abele*, Secretary.

**M I N U T E S**  
of the  
**46th CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**WISCONSIN DISTRICT**  
of the  
**Evangelical Synod of North America**  
**(Evangelical and Reformed Church)**  
Held in  
**Friedens Evangelical Church, Milwaukee, Wis.**  
Rev. W. H. Schlinkmann, D.D., Pastor

**April 13-15, 1937**

The Conference was opened on Tuesday, April 13th at 10 A. M. with a meditation by the Rev. Paul Kehle, vice-president of the district. The Rev. W. H. Schlinkmann, D.D., president of the Wisconsin District, was elected moderator and the Rev. Paul Kehle, vice-moderator.

Six committees carried on the work smoothly and in such fashion that the five business sessions seemed short.

Tuesday afternoon three thought provoking papers on the following themes were read and discussed: "The Christian and Prayer," Rev. M. M. Schmidt; "The Christian and the Church," Rev. M. Hoeppner; "The Christian and the World," Rev. F. Ringe.

Wednesday afternoon the Rev. Wm. Schultz spoke on the theme: "The Unity of the Spirit as a Source of United Action."

Our guests included the Rev. L. W. Goebel, D.D., Vice-President of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and of the Evangelical Synod of North America, who preached on Tuesday evening on the text Matt. 14: 14-16; Wednesday evening the Rev. T. Lehmann, D.D., president of Elmhurst College, preached to our men on the theme: "A Testimony Regarding Values of Life"; the Rev. J. P. Meyer, D.D., Director of our Kingdom Service addressed us on a number of occasions and the Rev. A. Dreusicke presented the cause of the pastors' pension fund.

Thursday morning three of the laity addressed the conference on the themes: "The Church and the Young People," Mr. Frank Kastner; "The Church and the Women," Mrs. E. Zeller, President of the Milwaukee Women's Union Federation; "The Church and the Men," Mr. H. Haese, President of the Milwaukee Brotherhood Federation.

The Conference was brought to a fitting close with a Memorial and Communion Service. The Rev. Paul Kehle preaching the Sermon and

also assisting the pastor of the church in the celebration of Holy Communion.

The Rev. Paul Bratzel installed the newly elected officers.

### **Elections**

Rev. Paul C. Kehle, President; Rev. Theo. P. Frohne, Vice-President; Rev. H. A. Crusius, Secretary; Mr. Jacob Niemann, Treasurer; Mr. Alvin Wille, District Council; Rev. W. H. Schlinkmann, D.D., General Council; Mr. Wm. Frank was subsequently appointed to serve on the General Council. Elections were also held for the various committees where terms of office had expired or vacancies occurred.

### **Resolutions of General Interest**

1. The Wisconsin District approves the proposed constitution of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. (Unanimously accepted.)
2. The Wisconsin District approves the proposed division of the present Wisconsin District into two synods.
3. The Wisconsin District heartily approves the action of the Board of Directors in complying with the request of the Board of Foreign Missions to permit our church in India to become a part of "The United Church of Northern India."
4. The Wisconsin District together with the other districts mourns the loss of members of the Synod, some of whom were men of special talents, and extends Christian sympathy to the sorrowing families of the late Rev. A. H. Grauer and the late Rev. H. Niefer, D.D., and others.
5. The Wisconsin District requests its officers to contact the Senators and Congressmen of the State of Wisconsin, urging upon them to secure an extention of the Federal Security Act, so that full-time employees of congregations, denominational and charitable institutions be included in the pensions. This shall, however, not include ordained pastors.
6. The Wisconsin District is grateful to see from the report of the Synodical Treasurer that the budget receipts have increased during the past year; but feels that the increase is not as great as the increase in wages and business income, and so encourages members of all congregations to give as God has prospered them.
7. The Wisconsin District in spite of its rather feeble response, goes on record as endorsing unreservedly the efforts put forth by the Director of the Greater Kingdom Service, Dr. J. P. Meyer, in a sincere, intelligent and consecrated attempt to liquidate the synodical debt and pledges itself to further cooperation in this important matter.

### **Special Resolution**

1. Whereas, some money has been collected by voluntary subscription for the taking care of the grave and stone of the late Rev. Wm.

Binner who was one of the founders of Eden Theological Seminary and "The Friedensbote" and who from 1858 to 1864 was the pastor of Christ Church, Germantown, Washington County, Wisconsin, and from 1864-1875 a missionary in Plymouth, Wisconsin and also editor of the "Missionsbote" which had a wide circulation,

Therefore, be it resolved that the president of the Wisconsin District appoint a committee of five which together with the president shall investigate the condition of the grave and stone of the late Rev. Wm. Binner and be given power to do everything necessary to put such grave and stone in proper, first-class condition.

*H. A. Crusius*, Secretary.

Approved by Paul C. Kehle, President.

